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Hafa Adai!

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75¢

Man who allegedly caused havoc on Pagan arrested

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Police arrested on Friday afternoon a man who allegedly caused havoc on Pagan by setting on fire helicopter fuel tanks, shooting a radio communication system, breaking into the mayor's house with a sledgehammer, and damaging the mayor's vehicle.

The suspect, Crispin Fitipol Castro, 38, also allegedly threatened he would shoot any government employee who sets foot on the isaldn.

Police served an arrest warrant issued by Superior Court Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio to Castro on Pagan last Friday at exactly 4:32pm. The arrest warrant was for arson and criminal mischief charges.

At a hearing yesterday, Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho maintained the $5,000 cash bail that Kim-Tenorio imposed in issuing the arrest warrant.

Camacho set the preliminary hearing for May 24 at 1:30pm.

Assistant public defender Matthew Meyer was appointed as counsel for Castro. Assistant attorney general Betsy Weintraub appeared for the

See MAN on Page 4

UNTIL CUC BOARD HIRES QUALIFIED APPLICANT:

Camacho to continue as executive director

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
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REPORTER

ROTA—Gary Camacho will be the acting executive director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. until such time the corporation finds someone qualified for the position.

The CUC board of directors passed a motion to "extend the acting executive directorship of Gary Camacho until the position is filled" in a meeting on Rota

See CAMACHO on Page 4

PINNING & LAMPING CEREMONY

Northern Marianas College Class of 2016 nursing students held their Pinning and Lamp Lighting Ceremony, which signifies the completion of their initial nursing education, last Sunday at the Saipan World Resort. The nursing students will be receiving their associate degrees in nursing at NMC's Commencement Exercise this Saturday, May 21, 2016.

NMC

'Over 10K CWs approved by April '16 against 12,999 cap'

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth already exceeded by April this year the number of contract workers permits approved for the CNMI compared to the total numbers of permits approved for the entire of last fiscal year, according to CNMI-specific data from the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services website.

As of April 27, the CNMI has exceeded the number of CW permits approved by over 500 permits.

With a cap of 13,999 last fiscal year, the federal agency approved 9,609 applicants.

In fiscal year 2016, this number is currently at 10,141 approved permits. This is against a cap of 12,999 contract workers.

The cap was cut by 1,000 by USCIS last October and is expected to decrease every year leading up to the expiration of the program, the lifeblood of the workforce in the CNMI, in 2019.

Still, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres says he is happy they are "reaching the cap."

With the USCIS numbers being year to date, Torres officials believe it may be possible that the CNMI will draw near if not hit the ceiling

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The Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps program began with a simple mission 100 years ago.
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OVERDRIVE
Hybrids are like the salad section on today's paleo-heavy, crossover-rich menu.
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LIFE & STYLE
It's "Captain America's" weekend at the box office once again by a large margin.
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Local

Rota celebrates feast of Our Lady of Fatima

FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON

Devotees of the Our Lady of Fatima carry her on their shoulders during a short procession around the parish grounds.

FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON

Devotees pay respect and kiss the image of the Our Lady after the procession.

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
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REPORTER

ROTA—The feast of Santa Maria Fatima was celebrated by parishioners of the San Franciso de Borja Church last Friday.

After the last of the nine-day novena masses and a short procession, devotees and families gathered for a potluck dinner at the Rota roundhouse.

Fr. Sid Ogumoro, who celebrated the mass, said that his message to parishioners was to continue praying and relying on the promises of the Blessed Mother.

"We have to trust her to continue to give us her protection and become more faithful to her and to Jesus. We just continue to pray," Ogumoro said.

FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON

A potluck dinner was shared by the community at the Rota roundhouse to celebrate the Blessed Mother's feast.

FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON

The Feast of Santa Maria Fatima was celebrated for the first time at the Songsong Village on Rota last Friday as opposed to the traditional celebration held at Tenetu.

For the first time, the feast was celebrated at the Songsong Village as opposed to their tradition of celebrating it at the Tenetu Village.

According to Fiesta Committee chair Frank Calvo, resident priest Fr. Isaac Ayuyu decided that the fiesta be held at the said village to bring the people together.

"Some of the people thought that maybe because it was the fiesta in Tenetu it was only basically for the Tenetu people but that's not the idea because Santa Maria Fatima is supposedly for the whole island," Calvo said.

"Whatever chapel that we have here where we usually have our fiesta, now its celebrated here," he added.

Calvo said the turnout is as great as it was the past years and thanked those who participated in the fiesta and celebrated with them.

Calvo, who is a devotee himself of Our Lady of Fatima, has been leading the feast celebrations for Santa Maria Fatima for two decades.

He and his wife and daughter share the name of the three children—Francisco, Jacinta, and Lucia—to whom the Blessed Mother appeared at Fatima on May 13, 1917.

He said they are already preparing for the centennial celebration of the apparition next year.

Community avails of mobile clinic services

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Close to 100 individuals availed of the free services offered by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau of the Commonwealth Health Center Corp. The mobile clinic is part of MCHB's 360 for Your Health for the Women's Health Month.

MCHB administrator Ta-Ann Kabua said while the services offered are mostly for women, they also encouraged the entire family to avail of the services.

"This is second year and is part of the Women's Health Month celebration. We target women but families are also welcome to avail some of the services," she said.

Most of the women who attended last Saturday's event had their flu shots also administered at CHCC. A lot also availed of the free diabetes screening and blood pressure test.

Breast and cervical cancer screenings, diabetes and anemia screenings, family planning, pregnancy test, and domestic and sexual assault counseling are the other services offered.

Kabua said they still have a number of activities to be held in commemoration of the Women's Health Month. A women's fit and wellness class will be held on Thursday in collaboration with Latte Built fitness instructor and nutrition expert Derek Cutting.

Aside from teaching various exercises, female participants will also have the chance to learn about nutrition and other healthy choices.

An interesting event of the Women's Health Month is the Walk In Our Shoes one-mile race on May 27 at the Garapan Fishing Base. Male participants will carry a 20-lb sack of rice to experience pregnancy. The first 20 to cross the finish line will win a prize.

MCHB officials are also thanking Joseph Caranto, who has been giving free Zumba classes at the Garapan Central Park as part of their promotion of having a healthy lifestyle.

Also, in a recent story about the family planning services part of MCHB's programs, it was reported that there's no available data on teen pregnancy in the CNMI that is higher than the national rate.

MCHB has statistics but Kabua and project coordinator Heather Pangelinan just did not have the information when they were the special guests of the Rotary Club of Saipan a few weeks ago.

JON PEREZ

A woman, right, waits for her turn to get her blood tested in last Saturday's Mobile Clinic organized by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau of the Commonwealth Health Center Corp.

MCHB said that they have been tracking the information as part of their report as a requirement by federal grantors.

They have also dropped the coconut husking, grinding, and throwing events in the Island Sportsfest on May 28.

Jucutan's motion to suppress confession, statements denied

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

U.S. District Court for the NMI Senior Judge Alex R. Munson yesterday denied Jordan M. Jucutan's motion to suppress his confession and all prior statements made in March 2015 when he was interrogated by agents from the U.S. Army Reserve Criminal Investigation Division and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Munson said he denies the motion after having viewed all the exhibits submitted by the parties, including three videos totaling 47 minutes from the interview of Jucutan in Saipan by federal law enforcement agents on March 5, 2015.

In a one-page order, Munson said his memorandum decision will follow.

The senior judge heard the motion last Wednesday and Thursday. Jucutan, a teacher and a former member of the U.S. Army Reserve, testified along with his wife, Danica, at his motion hearing on Thursday.

After the hearing, Munson placed the matter under advisement.

Munson

Jucutan stated in his declaration that agents from the Army Reserve CID and FBI interrogated him and subjected him to polygraph test without advising him of his constitutional rights.

Defense counsel Pamela Brown Blackburn asked the court to suppress Jucutan's statement to Army Reserve CID investigators on March 31, 2015, as well as all prior statements made during CIB and FBI interrogation at the FBI office on Saipan on March 5, 2015 due to violation of his U.S. and NMI constitutional rights as guaranteed under the Fifth and Sixth Amendments.

An indictment charged Jucutan with four counts of wire fraud and four counts of aggravated identity theft. The defendant pleaded not guilty.

The jury trial will commence today, Tuesday, in federal court.

» Jury trial of former US Army Reserve member to commence today in federal court

According to assistant U.S. attorney Russell Lorfing in court documents, the evidence will show that Jucutan, a former member of the Army Reserve, engaged in a scheme to defraud and to obtain money by falsely claiming he referred soldiers to enlist in the Reserve through the Army Reserves Recruiter Assistant Program.

Lorfing said over the period of the charged scheme, Jucutan nominated 38 people—of which only 15 were nominated with the consent of the future soldier.

The prosecutor said the defendant was paid $17,000 in compensation after nine of his nominees signed enlistment papers and shipped to boot camp.

He said the four wirings charged in the indictment were done when Jucutan submitted the personal information of various nominees through the Document & Packaging Brothers Inc. (Docupak) website.

Lorfing said the four aggravated identity theft charges were done when defendant possessed various soldiers' social security number without their permission.

According to the indictment, in September 2005, the United States Army Reserve Command located at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, entered into a contract with Docupak located in Alabama, to administer a program called the Army Reserve Recruiting Assistance Program (AR-RAP).

The AR-RAP was designed to offer monetary incentives in the form of recruiting referral bonuses to Army Reserve soldiers, known as recruiter assistants, to recruit other individuals to serve in the U.S. Army Reserves.

Man arrested for allegedly pushing 76-year-old dad

An allegedlly intoxicated 39-year-old man twice pushed his 76-year-old father hard for failing to give him money and for denting a car at their residence in Oleai last week.

Camacho

When police responded, suspect Dennis Laniyo Norita, already fled the scene aboard a pickup truck belonging to the government.

At a hearing yesterday, Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho imposed a $5,000 cash bail and set the preliminary hearing for May 23 at 9am.

Assistant public defender Tillman Clark was appointed as counsel for Norita. Assistant attorney general Shannon Foley appeared for the government.

Police Detective Peter A. Aldan stated in his report that investigation showed that the 76-year-old victim was resting on his bed last May 8 when his son, Norita, arrived at 10:30pm aboard a government pickup truck.

Norita asked money from his father. The father told him that he already gave his money to his younger brother to buy cigarettes.

Norita allegedly got mad and pushed his father with his right hand on the chest, almost causing the old man to fall.

The father said he was scared because his son was not only drunk, but looked high on drugs.

The old man then cried as he felt pain in his chest.

Norita then asked who owns the white Toyota Corolla parked outside the house. The father replied that the car belongs to his Bangladeshi tenant.

Norita went outside, picked up a hollow block and threatened to shatter the car's windshield if his father would not give him money.

The old man, who was then sitting on a wheelchair by the front door of the house, pleaded to his son not to break the car's windshield.

The old man said his Bangladeshi tenant allowed him to use the car for Mother's Day, the following day.

Norita instead punched the car's hood and the trunk's lid, causing dents. The old man shouted for help, calling his other son, who resides next door.

Norita allegedly approached his father and pushed him hard on the chest.

Norita stated he's not scared of police and that he would come back and beat him up and his tenant.

» He also dented car because he wasn't given money

Norita then left the house driving the same government pickup truck.

Aldan said Norita was shaking in fear as he waited for police to arrive.

Aldan said the victim also disclosed that last January, Norita also smashed the front windshield and driver's side window of his car with a hollow block when he did not give him money. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

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Sewralur hopeful traditional seafaring to continue

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Alingano Maisu skipper Sesario Sewralur is optimistic that the art of traditional seafaring would continue even after his passing. He is teaching the skill at the Palau Community College and has also taught two of his sons.

Carolinians had been using the traditional way of navigating the oceans—using the position of the stars, reading the weather and wind conditions, feeling the swells and ocean current, and watching the birds and other ocean species—even before European explorers discovered the islands in the Pacific.

The skill, which is part of the Carolinian culture, was passed down from generation to generation and it was the same method used by their ancestors when they sailed from the Caroline Islands to the Northern Marianas island chain.

Sewralur and his crew—his 7-year-old son Dylan, Rodney Kazuma and Murais Sebangol of Palau, Satawal's Miano Sowraenpiy and Albno Esoailug, and Norman Tawelimai of Ifalik—held a mini seminar on the basic methods last Saturday to interested and curious individuals who wanted to learn a thing or two about the Carolinian way of sailing the ocean.

They also taught students from different elementary and middle schools the entire week since they arrived last May 7. American Aylie Baker and Japanese Kazuyo Hayashi and Osamu Kasuge are also part of the voyage.

"I am grateful for the opportunity to give lessons on how to navigate the oceans. The kids are very appreciative and have been asking a lot of questions. We like the interaction since they have open minds. We see it as a good sign that the tradition is safe for future generations," said Sewralur.

"This is a very unique tradition, a different way of navigating the seas without the use of modern equipment. We are hopeful that someday my sons and others would continue this tradition."

He said that he has been teaching Dylan and his older brother, who was supposed to join them in the trip but had to attend his graduation in Yap, the skill that was handed down to him by his father—legendary master navigator Pius Mau Piailug.

"My sons wanted to continue the tradition that's why I've been teaching them what I've learned from my father," said Sewralur.

The skill, however, is not limited to men only as women are also welcome to learn. "Females, even though they won't sail for the rest of their lives, could study and learn the skill since they could also pass the knowledge to their sons.

Sewralur and his companions crossed the Pacific to attend the 12th Festival of the Pacific Arts in Guam, which opens on Sunday at the Paseo de Susana Park in Hagatna. They are scheduled to leave at around 7am or 8am on Thursday and it will take them 12 to 16 hours to travel to Guam.

"It will all depend on the winds and the condition of the tides. We are expected to arrive either late Thursday night or early Friday morning. We are expecting a huge welcome from the delegates of the festival," added Sewralur.

JON PEREZ

Tourists check out the double-hulled voyaging canoe *Alingano Maisu* while children play in the water. Captain Sesario Sewralur and his crew, including one American and two Japanese, crossed the Pacific Ocean and made a stop on Saipan to attend the 12th Festival of the Pacific Arts in Guam.

MAN

From Page 1

government.

Police Detective Dee Liza Udui stated in her report that last April 14, Department of Public Safety Commissioner Robert Guerrero held a briefing with two DPS officials and a police officer regarding a disturbance in the northern island of Pagan.

Udui said according to Guerrero, Northern Islands Mayor Francisco Aldan requested police assistance against Castro and his brother Santiago, who are both Pagan residents.

Aldan stated that the Castro brothers were creating disturbance on the island and threatened to shoot the communications radio down.

Udui said that on the same day, a police officer met with Aldan and his staff.

According to the mayor's staff, earlier that morning at 8am, a Homeland Security Office personnel called and informed him that Pagan residents will break into the mayor's house and destroy radio communications by shooting it.

The Homeland Security Office personnel said a Pagan resident called their office that the Castro brothers were radical and threatened to break into the mayor's house, shoot the radio communication system, and burn down Pagan.

Since then, the HSO personnel said that they had no contact with Pagan residents.

Udui said that last April 15 at 6pm, she along with members from DPS, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Department of Corrections, and Emergency Management Services departed Saipan on M/V *Super Emerald* en route to Pagan.

Udui said upon their arrival on Pagan last April 16 at 2pm, three residents told them that Castro was responsible for all the damage and that the suspect threatened to shoot government employees.

Udui said for safety reasons, they advised the three residents to pack up their belongings and depart with them to Saipan.

Udui said while on Pagan, one resident led her through the village and showed all the destruction that Castro had done.

Udui said there was damage to Aldan's Daihatsu Jeep and his house.

Udui said at the fuel storage area, the fuel tanks were punctured and burned.

At the server room, damage was seen on the air-conditioner, the server console, and the satellite dish.

Udui said they departed Pagan at 6pm that day, April 16, and arrived on Saipan the following day at 3:30pm.

Udui said during her interview a Pagan resident who called HSO last April 18, stated that since February 2016, Aldan has been promising Pagan residents that he will send a re-supply ship.

Until now, the re-supply ship never came to Pagan and that this created stress on the residents.

Last April 11, Castro requested and spoke to an investigator at the Office of the Public Auditor to inform him about government corruption.

The Pagan resident said Castro broke into Aldan's house using a sledgehammer.

Last April 12, Castro told the witness to call HSO using the radio to request a conference meeting with Office of the Attorney General at 10:30am.

The witness said he and Castro waited for OAG, but nobody showed up via radio. Castro then called the witness up to the server to see him break the server using an axe.

The witness also later observed a bullet hole on the radio on either April 13 or 14.

Castro allegedly told the witness that he had placed the rifle he used to shoot the radio on top of the radio and to surrender it to the police.

The witness said that while he was at the lake he heard a loud explosion that he thought was the volcano erupting. He said when he went into the village, he learned that Castro used the axe to puncture the helicopter fuel tanks and set them all on fire.

The witness also told police last April 15 that he saw the damage on Aldan's vehicle, a black 1990 two-door Daihatsu Jeep.

CAMACHO

From Page 1

last Friday.

Previously, the board has been extending Camacho's appointment every 60 days since he initially came on board last December replacing chief engineer John Riegel. Riegel held the acting position after Alan Fletcher's contract expired last July.

"We were just giving him every 60 days because at that time, we have applicants who we vet to [the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency] but now we haven't had yet. We haven't filled that position yet, we haven't reviewed applicants yet so we haven't vetted, so instead of us going 60 days, 60 days, we just go one time until we have an approved applicants from EPA," CUC board chair Adelina Roberto said.

"We are very happy with his performance," she added, referring to Camacho's five months of serving the position.

According to Roberto, they started anew and continuing on with the hiring process for the executive director position, which is a stipulated order position.

Per the SO, the executive director of CUC shall have a Master's degree in management, engineering, finance, or public administration, or, in the alternative, a bachelor's degree in engineering and registration as a professional engineer pursuant to the National Council of Engineering Examiners standards in either the civil, mechanical, or electrical branch; and senior management experience of at least 10 years in a similar wastewater, drinking water, and/or power utility (preferably combined utility), with similar or greater capital and operating budgets, capital improvement projects, human resource needs, utility financing issues, operation and maintenance training and implementation needs.

It adds that the executive director shall have demonstrated proven management and communication skils; ability to lead, motivate, and develop staff; experience with managing major drinking water and wastewater systems during periods of planning, design, and construction; and experience with drinking water and wastewater systems; user fee system development; bond funding; staff training and development; and federal drinking water and wastewater requirements.

According to Roberto, they currently have three applicants for the position.

"We have three applicants that they just put together but we haven't reviewed so we're hoping to review it but our HR is not here. We need to review and we need to pick a candidate that we want to vet to EPA," Roberto said.

Meanwhile, CUC has been incurring penalties as it continues to fail compliance with stipulated orders.

For SO1, which includes the executive director and the deputy director positions, CUC faces $2,000 to $5,000 per day in penalties. CUC has already accrued $40 million each in penalties for SO1 and SO2.

OVER

From Page 1

this year.

"…If we are not reaching the cap, it means we don't need" the program, Torres told *Saipan Tribune* in an interview yesterday.

"If we are going to go into 2019 and ask for an extension [from the federal government] where we are not meeting" and showing the demand of workers for hotel and project investment, "it would not make sense," he said.

Torres said if the CNMI reaches its caps, continue to decrease its unemployment rate because of the continued hiring of locals by new investors, then it shows "we are all trying" to meet federal regulations by the hard date of 2019.

"And by next year and the following year, we will know exactly our labor force," he said, encouraging private business partners to "hire local," calling this "mandatory."

As for the current split of CWs in the CNMI, Torres said the increase from last year to be largely attributed to the "investment that is here" and these projects construction demands, when asked yesterday.

"…Manpower is a need," Torres said. "We have new investments that are here. So hiring new CWs is a lot better. We are utilizing that for now versus not having" the program.

‘Low energy if I don’t walk’

JON PEREZ

Participants of last Saturday’s Sophia 5K Fun Walk pose for a group photo before heading out to the course where the turnaround point is at Gold Beach Hotel.

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Sophia Tenorio said she feels different if she fails to do her daily walking exercise. That’s why the now 76-year-old cancer survivor makes it a point to walk at least five miles a day.

“Brisk walking is good for your health that’s why I continued this activity even after I survived colon cancer,” said Tenorio after completing a five-kilometer distance in last Saturday’s Sophia-Fiesta 5K Fun Walk. “I feel different, unwell, and sluggish if I did not do my daily routine.”

The walk incidentally is named after the former first lady.

Tenorio said she has not gained weight ever since she started her daily exercise more than 30 years ago. “That and watching what I eat helped me to have a healthier lifestyle. I see to it that I take good care of myself.”

She added that walking is also her alone and quiet time. “That’s why I walk in different places. Sometimes at the Airport Field, the Beach Road pathway, or at the American Memorial Park. I see to it that I change my atmosphere.”

Tenorio is encouraging everyone to do even 10 minutes of walking. “Just start slow. Walking has a lot of health benefits. In the states, I walk seven miles a day.”

A regular group of Japanese walkers, the Nippon Turtle Club, has been joining her in the annual Sophia Walk. “Every year they come here and join me. Next year we plan to invite kids from school,” added Tenorio.

Ninety-five-year-old Jo Izumi is among the Japanese walkers that joined last Saturday’s event. Izumi is a good friend of Tenorio.

Pacific Development Inc. president Masanori Takahashi, who helps in organizing the event and the trip of the Japanese walkers, said they use the Sophia Walk to also promote friendship among the participants.

“We would like to promote a healthy lifestyle and friendship through walking. Our walking event is not a competition and open to everyone,” said Takahashi.

The five-kilometer walk began and ended at Fiesta Resort. The route is at the pathway with Saipan Gold Beach Hotel as the turnaround point.

More than 80 participated in last Saturday’s walk. They failed to organize the walking event last year due to Typhoon Dolphin. Refreshments and fruits were given to all participants.

Fiesta Resort & Spa, Kanoa Resort, Tan Holdings, Marianas Visitors Authority, Marianas Health, PDI, and KKMP are the sponsors of the event.

JON PEREZ

Former first lady Sophia Tenorio, right, with 95-year-old and Nippon Turtle Club member Jo Izumi.

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BECQ: Grants oversight hinders agency deadlines

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

The administration of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres is still deliberating action on a bill to provide Torres' grant's office with oversight over all government grants, as it hears concerns from various agencies and has also received a proposed "redrafted" form of the bill from one agency concerned with the status of its federal grants, *Saipan Tribune* learned yesterday.

A lot of the concerns with the bill, House Bill 19-90, appear to center on the "oversight" powers that bill would grant to the CNMI Office of Grants and Management.

The Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality, for one, said the language of the bill will add another level of decision making for grants with strict timelines. This is problematic and results in even more delays in meeting federal grant deadlines, the bureau said.

"…What does this mean for decision-making expenditure authorities across the board? Disassociating the programs from their funding sources will only create chaos between the agencies and their federal counterparts and may result in unmet mandates," said BECQ administrator Frank Rabauliman in a letter to the Senate last month.

The BECQ letter provides one example of how the current grant structure is "not serving CNMI interests." This concerns involves the Office of Insular Affairs-Technical Assistance Program, which BECQ said they were encouraged to pursue last year.

However, according to the letter, BECQ was informed in February 2016 that the grants office had "already submitted a proposal "for BECQ" for a beach nourishment study that would be conducted through the bureau.

This, though, was "non-priority" of the bureau due to the "many ecological concerns about such projects."

"As a result, the funding in the amount of $250,00 was directed to the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers to conduct a beach nourishment study as opposes to a local project that would have been carried out by Homeland Security and BECQ," said Rabauliman. "These funds could have been awarded to the CNMI but instead were given to another U.S. federal agency to conduct the project."

"…Agencies know what their programs needs and capabilities are, and these factors should inform grant requests," Rabauliman adds.

In the letter, Rabauliman says they support the "state clearinghouse" or consolidating grants under the "central point" of the grants office but does not support that the office oversee program grants.

GOVERNOR'S TOURISM CUP DONORS

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

James Sablan, general manager of Joeten Superstore, presents a $2,000 check to the organizers of the Governor's Tourism Cup Golf Tournament held last May 14. Accepting the check on behalf of the GTC are Marianas Visitors Authority vice chair and tournament director James Nelson and Marianas Tourism Education Council chair Vicky Benavente.

Joeten Motors general manager Matt Deets, fifth from left, presents to the organizers of the Governor's Tourism Cup Golf Tournament the 2016 Ford F150 Truck as a prize for a hole-in-one. Accepting the tournament prize is Marianas Visitors Authority vice chair and tournament director James Nelson, third from right, MVA Public Relations and Community Programs manager and tournament vice chair Martin Duenas, second from right, and Marianas Tourism Education Council chair Vicky Benavente.

Best Sunshine International, Ltd. committed $2,000 as a Classic Sponsor of the Governor's Tourism Cup Golf Tournament. Standing from left, Shamika Ratwatte, Ernst &Young/MTEC treasurer; Vicky Benavente, Pacific Islands Club/MTEC chair; James Nelson, MVA board vice chair/tournament director; Geri Dela Cruz, Best Sunshine executive director Corporate Social Responsibility; and Martin Duenas, MVA PR and Community Programs manager.

Alleged drug user beats up wife in front of 2 minor children

An alleged marijuana and methamphetamine or "ice" user who was intoxicated beat up his wife and shouted bad words at their two minor daughters at their residence in Chalan Kanoa on Friday early morning.

Jordan Robert N. Tudela, 33, was arrested for assault and battery, assault, and disturbing the peace.

When a police officer arrived at the scene, he observed the tearful wife shaking and her hair was messy.

The two minor girls told police that they saw their father, Tudela, hitting their mother.

At a hearing yesterday, Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho imposed a $3,000 cash bail on Tudela and set the preliminary hearing for May 23 at 9am.

Assistant public defender Matthew Meyer was appointed as counsel for Tudela. Assistant attorney general Betsy Weintraub appeared for the government.

According to Police Detective Daniel Maliuyaf, the wife stated that Tudela came home and knocked on the door but she did not open the door because he was drunk.

A minute later, Tudela came back and knocked again. She opened the door and Tudela apologized to her and stated he's hungry and wanted to eat.

After Tudela finished eating, he woke up their two daughters, and said bad words to them.

The wife went outside and called police. Tudela pushed her head and twisted her right thumb. He then left the house.

The 6-year-old daughter told police that she was sleeping when she heard their father shouting.

The girl said she then saw their father pulling her mother's hair and slapping her on the face. She told their father to stop, but he yelled at her with bad words.

The 9-year-old daughter also shouted at Tudela to stop hitting their mother, but he also yelled at her using bad words.

The 9-year-old daughter said she had seen their father smoking marijuana and "ice." ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

SSA delivers most popular baby names in US territories for 2015

The Social Security Administration announced the most popular baby names in the U.S. Territories for 2015. Daniel and Ava topped the list.

The top five boys and girls names for 2015 in the U.S. Territories were:

Boys:	Girls:
1) Daniel	1) Ava
2) David	2) Olivia
3) Michael	3) Amaya
4) Elijah	4) Aria
5) Noah	5) Claire

Carolyn W. Colvin, Acting Commissioner of Social Security, announced last week that Noah and Emma were the most popular baby names in the U.S. How does the U.S. Territories compare to the rest of the country? Check out Social Security's website—www.socialsecurity.gov—to see the top national baby names for 2015.

Like a name, Social Security is with you through life's journey. For future parents who need some inspiration and help with naming their baby, Social Security is unveiling a new baby names quiz at Social Security Matters, the agency's interactive blog located at http://blog.socialsecurity.gov. At the blog, people can find information on retirement, disability, and survivors benefits, online services, and much more.

As she does each year, Colvin encourages everyone to visit the agency's website, have fun with the baby names list, and create a my Social Security account at www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount. My Social Security is a personalized online account that people can use beginning in their working years and continuing throughout the time they receive Social Security benefits.

Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) beneficiaries can have instant access to their benefit verification letter, payment history, and complete earnings record by establishing a my Social Security account. Beneficiaries also can change their address, start or change direct deposit information, and print a replacement SSA-1099 online. People receiving Social Security can request a replacement Medicare card online.

Individuals age 18 and older who are not receiving benefits can also sign up for a my Social Security account to get their personalized online Social Security Statement. The online Statement provides workers with secure and convenient access to their Social Security earnings and benefit information, and estimates of future benefits they can use to plan for their retirement.

In addition to each state's top baby names, Social Security's website has a list of the 1,000 most popular boys' and girls' names for 2015 and offers lists of baby names for each year since 1880.

To read about this year's winner for the biggest jump in popularity and to see how pop culture affects baby names, go to https://www.ssa.gov/news/press/releases/. ***(PR)***

BSI gives out over 80 letters of intent in job fair

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Best Sunshine International, Ltd. recruitment officials handed more than 80 letters of intent to applicants in last Friday's recruitment day held from 9am to 5pm at Fiesta Resort & Spa-Saipan's Azucena Banquet Hall. They also made an offer of immediate employment to 10 individuals.

BSI is looking to fill more than 500 jobs in time for the opening of the first phase of their integrated resort on Saipan. There's no exact day of the opening but they said that they are targeting it in January 2017.

Individuals who received letters of intent are already hired and will be among the first batch of trainees set either for October or November. The training, however, would depend if construction of Phase 1 would be done by January.

Talent acquisition officials said they find it challenging in sifting through and interviewing lots of applicants but it is an exciting opportunity for the people and the community. They added they immediately inform the applicants if they are hired or not.

Vicente Manibusan is among the applicants that received a letter of intent. The 20-year-old said he is looking forward to work with BSI and was elated to learn that the company has a basketball team. BSI's basketball team has been playing in several leagues on the island.

"I like playing basketball. Hopefully I can play with the team and do my share inside the court," said the lanky big man who previously played under Shirley's and McDonald's. "The letter of intent guarantees you a spot for employment and could start training."

He applied as a cage cashier but earned a letter of intent as a front office agent with one reason being his 6'3" built. "I like dealing with customers. I learned about the job fair from some of my relatives who are now working here."

BSI also offered free refreshments and light snacks to all applicants while they wait for their turn to be interviewed by talent acquisition officials.

BSI is looking to fill the laundry manager and attendant, housekeeping attendant, public area cleaner, wardrobe attendant, seamstress, front office agent, valet attendant, bell person, kitchen steward, gardener, floral processor, pool attendant, and health club attendant for hotel operations. An administrative assistant, VIP drivers, and tour operators for the hospitality department; servers, runners, bartenders, bar backs, Demi and Commis chefs (Western/Chinese cuisines) for food and beverage; and one purchasing manager are also needed.

BSI's hiring continues in their head office everyday from 9am to 5pm.

JON PEREZ

A member of Best Sunshine International's talent acquisition team, left, talks to some of the applicants of last Friday's recruitment day held from 9am to 5pm at Fiesta Resort & SpaSaipan's Azucena Banquet Hall.

Torres approves $50K for FestPac, $50K for SNILD operations

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres signed Friday a local bill to appropriate $220,000 from pachinko slot and poker machines license fees to, among others, provide $50,000 for CNMI participants performing in this month's Festival of the Pacific Arts, among other community and cultural activities.

Saipan Local Law 19-13, formerly House Local Bill 19-58, appropriates "unobligated funds" from an earlier local bill that had been approved earlier this year minus a series of appropriations questioned and vetoed by the governor.

That earlier bill, House local bill 19-37, also tried to appropriate money for FestPac, but Torres said it was "unclear" "what public purpose" would be served to appropriate $50,000 for the Saipan and Northern Islands Delegation's participation in the festival.

Besides the funding for FestPac participants, the new local law also appropriates $50,000 to the SNILD delegation "operations." Expenditure authority belongs to the SNILD chairman.

The local law also provides $50,000 for the members of the CNMI Farmer's Cooperative Association and Saipan Sabalu Farmer's Market Inc. "who suffered crop loss due to Typhoon Soudelor."

Some $20,000 is also appropriated for the 2016 Liberation Day Activities

Another $10,000, among others appropriations, was earmarked for athletics and agricultural events. It is also appropriated "for the Silver Discover Cruise Liner visit" and the "Konferencia Dinana Islas Marianas" on Pagan in June 2016. Funds are under the expenditure of the mayor of the Northern Islands. ***(Dennis B. Chan)***

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Military Ball marks 100th year for JROTC program

All cadets, instructors, VIPs, and guests takes a picture with "22" as the background to show support towards veterans who suffer from PTSD.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

By THOMAS MANGLONA II
CORRESPONDENT

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Education Commissioner Dr. Rita Sablan, SFC Susie Acfalle, SGM Joaquin Kiyoshi, 1SG Jose King, CSM Richard Basa, MAJ Merle Hoskins, MSG James Burke, SFC Anthony Crolla, 1SG David O'Dea, and Mrs. Yvonne Pangelinan pose together for a group photo.

The Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps program began with a simple mission 100 years ago. That is to provide students the opportunity to receive military instruction from military personnel, according to Saipan Southern High School JROTC instructor CSM Richard Basa.

Basa addressed five battalions from the CNMI Public School System at the 24th Annual Military Ball at Saipan World Resort's Taga Ball Room last Saturday. Cadets and instructors from Marianas High School, Kagman High School, Saipan Southern High School, Tinian Jr./Sr. High School, Dr. Rita Hocog Inos Jr./Sr. High School were in attendance.

In his remarks, Basa ruminated on the past successes of the program and noted that

The presentation of cadets who are seniors of the graduating class of 2016.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

a number of its many purposes is to teach leadership, citizenship, self-discipline, team work, and service to the community.

"JROTC has now evolved into a massive nationwide collaboration," he told *Saipan Tribune*. "It is a very successful program."

Currently, there are 1,731 JROTC programs, 314,000 cadets, and 4,000 instructors nationwide.

Each of the public high school battalions presented their accomplishments and events during the event as well.

In his keynote speech, First Sergeant David O'Dea inspired the cadets to remain motivated in their endeavors.

Associate Commissioner of Student Support Services Yvonne Pangelinan urged the cadets to take the pledge under "Mission 22" in support of veterans who suffer from PTSD.

Education Commissioner Dr. Rita Sablan expressed her gratitude toward those involved in the program and lauded them for their hard work. She added that the celebration of "Heroes to Teachers Week" takes place from May 16 to 20, 2016.

Over 30 senior cadets were also recognized for their involvement and their plans after high school graduation were announced.

As one of 11 Gates Millennium Scholars this year from the CNMI, Tinian student and JROTC cadet captain Odorico San Nicolas said, " JROTC has been an impact on my education because it allowed me to hone in on my ability to be an effective leader. The JROTC Program has been a great influence on my life because it has just been a continuous window of opportunity."

He added, "The amount of service that cadets in the program provide is endless. The connections that you gain and the experiences that come with being an active cadet in the program, such as Military Ball, teach cadets things that you do not learn in a regular classroom."

CCA meeting reset to May 24

The regular meeting of the Commonwealth Cancer Association's Board of Directors scheduled for today, May 17, 3pm at the CCA Conference Room has been rescheduled to 3pm on Tuesday, May 24, 2016 at the same location. Agenda includes reports from the president and program updates. All board meetings are open to the public. For more information, contact the Commonwealth Cancer Association at 682-0050 or email at ccamarianas@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy 11th birthday to our All-Star Jylon Joseph! May the good Lord bless you with many more years to come. Enjoy your special day! With lots of love, from the family!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

NMTI partners with Kanoa Resort to train students

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Northern Marianas Trades Institute Board of Directors chair John Oliver Gonzales and Kanoa Resort general manager Wendi Herring, right, sign a memorandum of agreement detailing how both sides provide resources toward student training in the areas of hospitality and culinary arts. NMTI CEO Agnes McPhetres, left, looks on.

The Northern Marianas Trades Institute on Tuesday, May 11, signed a memorandum of agreement with Kanoa Resort detailing how both sides would be providing resources toward student training in the areas of hospitality and culinary arts.

Signing on behalf of the hotel was Wendi Herring, general manager of Kanoa. According to the agreement, students will be hired and placed under experienced Kanoa staff during their 230-hour internship requirement. Kanoa in turn will also be encouraging current and future staff to attend foreign language courses at NMTI as part of their professional development.

When asked for comment on the partnership, Herring said, "Seeing the amount of enthusiasm in the community for tourism coupled with programs such as this to further develop our workforce gives me goose bumps as I was here during the initial decline in the industry. I admire the work being done by NMTI to address the growing need to teach and train new hospitality professionals and we are grateful for this opportunity." The signing of the agreement is yet another move in NMTI's program expansion efforts. NMTI currently has similar agreements with the Hyatt Regency Saipan and Fiesta Resort & Spa. The current strengthening in the hospitality and culinary arts trades is in direct response to the industry demand. With tourism activities growing and the CW situation being a current constraint, Kanoa and NMTI see this partnership as a means to curb the current strain on the CNMI's human resource woes.

"Wendi's active participation is how this became a reality. It's nice to have her back on Saipan and back in the industry her name is synonymous with since the late '90s," according to Agnes McPhetres, NMTI's CEO. Also in attendance at the signing were NMTI Board of Directors chair John Oliver Gonzales and director Herman Cabrera. Gonzales reiterated, "that partnerships is key in the overall success of our students. Their paid internships are what I feel should attract other prospective students. Kanoa signing up only shows their true commitment as they will be covering that expense willingly, thus an indication that they have faith in the NMTI product. ***(PR)***

Yonsei Academy holds successful concert

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Yonsei Academy students perform during their May 6 concert at Agape Christian School. The event raised $695 for the benefit of the Commonwealth Health Center.

Yonsei Academy had a successful concert last May 6 at Agape Christian School with an audience of around 250 people enjoying a magical night of music.

Instructor Youngmi Han said it was a wonderful concert and the students were able to grow deeply in music.

The concert's theme was Music History: In between Baroque, Classical, Romance, and Contemporary period performances.

There were church music, piano battle, and Rapha Ensemble as well. The concert was able to raise $695 and it was handed over to Jesses Tudela of the Commonwealth Health Center. Yonsei Academy held a concert reception afterwards.

Since 2009, the music school has been donating funds raised from their concerts, while showcasing the musical talents of the students.

Yonsei Academy's Rapah Ensemble has also been going to CHC every Sunday afternoon since 2009 to conduct music community service.

Beginning with Yonsei Academy's SSHS Manta String Ensemble bagging a gold award in 2009 at the Tumon Bay Music Festival, the music school has been taking home good results every year.

Han said, "I am really glad about this concert because we were able to donate. There were a lot of difficulties after the typhoon last year because the pianos became damp and soaked by rain. However, our students' dreams didn't disappear and they diligently practiced to bring great results back from TBMF last March 5."

Kate Ishida (Saipan Community School) and Sunny Park (Saipan International School) received full scores from the adjudicator and pianist Roman Rudnytsky.

"I want to congratulate our students who performed so well and I am very proud of them," said Han. ***(PR)***

NMC offices closed Wednesday, May 18

Northern Marianas College employees will be participating in an all-day, on-campus professional development activity on Wednesday, May 18, 2016. All NMC offices will be closed on this day to ensure maximum employee participation.

We apologize for any inconvenience caused. For any campus emergency, please contact NMC Security at 237-6800. For more information about upcoming events, visit www.marianas.edu. ***(PR)***

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
RFP16-DPS/RBS-117

SUBMISSION DATE: JUNE 8, 2016 **TIME: 10:00 A.M.**

"TO CONDUCT DIVE RESCUE TRAINING, A PROJECT UNDER THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, RECREATIONAL BOATING SAFETY"

COPIES OF THE SCOPE OF WORK MAY BE PICKED UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS PROJECT MAY BE SUBMITTED BY E-MAIL TO OFFICER EMERY KAIPAT: ekaipat@dps.gov.mp (670-285-4829) NO LATER THAN THE **CLOSE OF BUSINESS, MAY 27, 2016.** QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS SHALL BE SHARED WITH ALL PROSPECTIVE OFFERORS.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSALS AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A PROPOSAL IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ ROBERT A. GUERRERO
COMMISSIONER OF DPS

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR OF P&S

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION STATEMENTS FOR ARCHITECTURAL/ENGINEERING DESIGN SERVICES
FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
TSA RECAPITALIZATION PROGRAM
EXPLOSIVE DETECTION SYSTEMS REPLACEMENT
PROJECT NO. CPA-SA-006-16

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting statements of professional qualifications from interested Consultants for Architectural and Engineering (A/E) Design Services for the removal and replacement of the U.S. Transportation Security Administration's (TSA) Explosive Detection System (EDS) equipment at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport

The project is being funded by TSA. This project is in accordance with CPA's Procurement Rules and Regulations and procedures shall be in full compliance with Section 40-50-202 Architect-Engineer Design and Construction Management Services.

The Request for Qualification (RFQ) Package is available at CPA's Office of the Executive Director, 2nd floor of the arrival terminal. No fee is required for obtaining the proposal package. Questions regarding this request for RFQ statements must be submitted to Ms. Wendi L. Prater, CPA Executive Assistant, at (670) 237-6500, faxed to (670) 234-5962 and/or emailed to wprater@cpa.gov.mp by no later than Friday, June 3, 2016, 4:30 p.m., local time.

At a minimum, the statements of professional qualification will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

1. A/E design experience in similar scoped projects in the Pacific area and especially in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Island – (35 points);
2. A/E Design experience related to projects funded in whole or in part by the U.S. Transportation Security Administration (TSA) – (25 points);
3. The general reputation of the Consultant in terms of quality of A/E work experience and services performed for AIP projects, and the Consultant's professional integrity and competence – (15 points);
4. Capacity to accomplish the work within the contract time - (15 points); and
5. Resumes of key personnel including current licenses and registrations of principal – (10 points)

Interested Consultants shall submit one (1) original, four (4) copies and one (1) electronic version in .pdf on a compact disc of their statements of professional qualifications no later than **4:30 p.m., Friday, JUNE 17, 2016.** Statements of qualification must be presented by a combination of both brochures and the use of current U.S. Government Standard Form 330.

Discussions may be conducted with at least three (3) of the firms regarding the agreement requirements and technical approach and selection made there from, in order of preference, of no less than three (3) firms determined to be the most highly qualified to perform the services required.

An agreement shall be negotiated with the highest qualified architect/engineer firm or company at a price determined to be fair and reasonable to the government. If a fair and reasonable price cannot be negotiated with the highest ranking qualified firm, then additional firms may be selected in order of competence and qualifications and negotiations continued until a fair and reasonable price is agreed upon.

All responses to this RFQ shall take into account any and all taxes that will be charged to the consultant awarded an agreement for this project, including excise tax.

The CPA reserves the right to reject any or all statements of professional qualification for any reason, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in its best interest.

Send information to:
Ms. MaryAnn Q. Lizama
Executive Director
Commonwealth Ports Authority
P.O. Box 501055
Saipan, MP 96950-1055

For the Commonwealth Ports Authority:

/s/ JOSE R. LIFOIFOI
Board Chairman/Contracting Officer

Date: May 13, 2016

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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The Associated Press | Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Kenya takes a tough line on elephant poachers

Elephant poachers have upped the ante in an attempt to supply Asia's appetite for ivory. Armed with advanced weapons and utilizing war-like tactics, the poachers have turned the lucrative hunt for elephants and their tusks into a grim, ruthless science. Even in Kenya, where elephants are under the protection of the government, poachers are still able to kill the intelligent creature by the thousands annually.

Last month, President Uhuru Kenyatta of Kenya sent a powerful message that poachers have an implacable foe in Nairobi. Kenyatta ordered that the 105 metric tons of ivory and tusks Kenya confiscated from poachers be ceremonially burned. Message: Ivory is useless if it isn't attached to living elephants. The president personally lit a pyramid of tusks.

"No one, and I repeat, no one has any business in trading in ivory, for this trade means death — the death of our elephants and the death of our natural heritage," Kenyatta said. The black market value of the tusks and recovered ivory was in excess of $100 million.

Kenyatta's point is well taken: The ivory should be considered worthless unless it is attached to living, breathing, thriving elephants. The ivory haul that the president helped burn represents the remains of 6,000 to 7,000 elephants. This is an untenable assault on an intelligent creature that has been on this planet in one form or another longer than humans.

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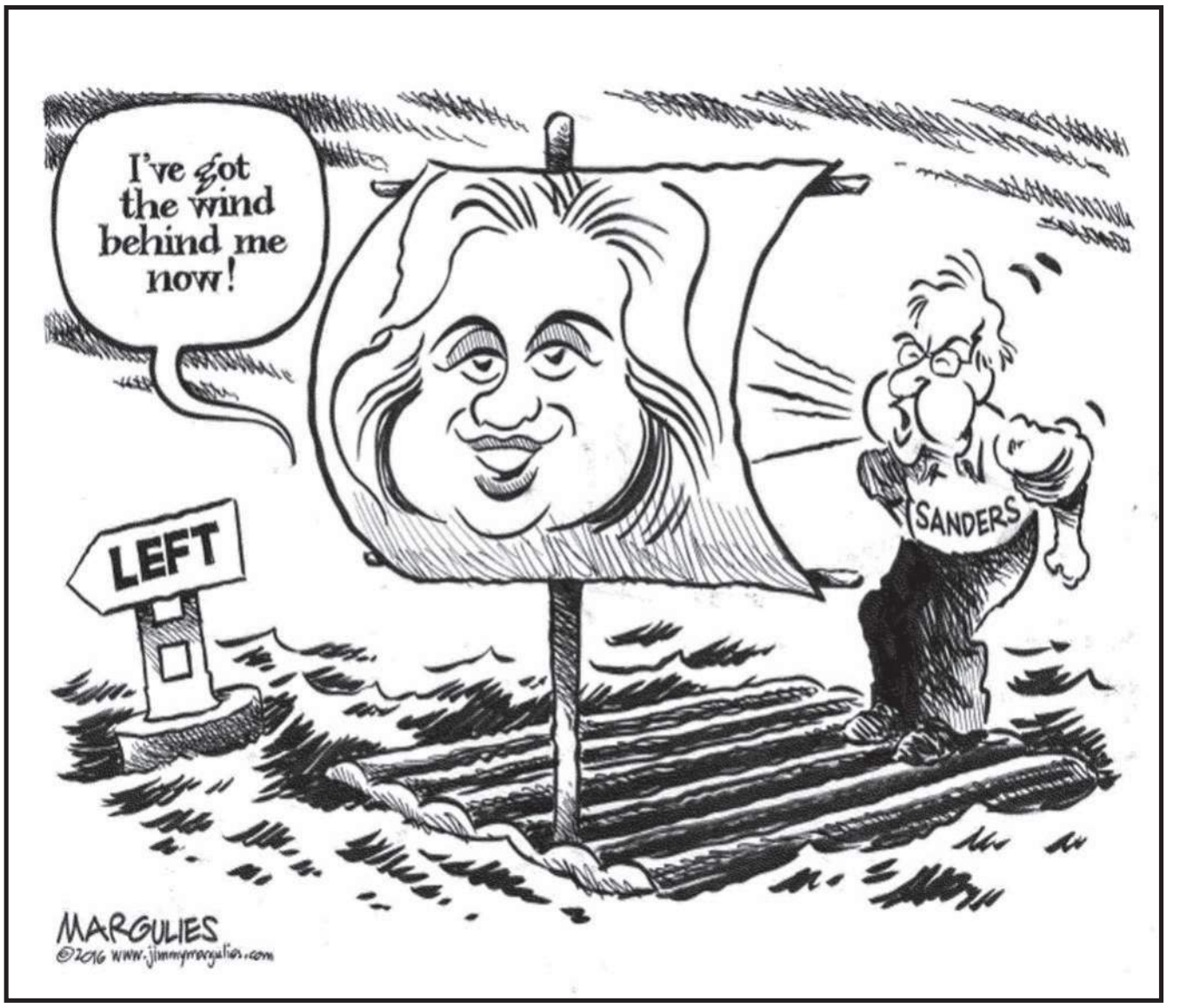


The issue of statehood for US territories: Some reflections on a new perspective

By TIBERIU DIANU
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

The current political discourse in the heated 2016 electoral year gravitates around some simple, commonsense, yet grandiose ideas like making America great again through reviving trade, by recapturing overseas jobs (lost in favor of other nations beneficiaries of globalization), and strengthening the military (weakened by the political demagogues' lack of vision). As a result, many American manufactured products are not being competitive anymore on international markets, the same as American military which, it is said, is not being capable to fight anymore on two fronts at the same time.

In the meantime, on the international arena, America's traditional foes have been already coagulated their territorial expansion policies. Russia is extending its sphere of influence in both the Arctic and the Pacific Rim. China is pushing its boundaries in the disputed South China Sea. While North Korea does not make any secret of the fact that is ready to attack the coast of Alaska. In addition to these aggressive actors, a series of lower level rogue nations (among them: Iran, Venezuela) already have been displaying bombastic discourses about regional dominance. To all that, international terrorism is added.

Given the circumstances, it is imperiously necessary for the United States to solidify their narrative about a new era of American greatness and exceptionalism. We are not talking about "the world's policeman," or about "nation building." Instead, we are talking about a new period when America should recapture its greatness again for itself, and not so much for the others.

But before that, we need to remind ourselves the past periods when America used to be great(er). Let us briefly recap some revealing moments in the recent U.S. history.

1. The Spanish-American War of 1898: the U.S. wins sovereignty over Cuba, Puerto Rico (in the Atlantic/the Caribbean Sea), Guam and the Philippines (in the Pacific), and soon after that over the Panama Canal (in 1903).

2. During the years of the World War 1 (U.S. entered the war in 1917): U.S. administration of Haiti (1915), Dominican Republic (1916), Virgin Islands (purchased from Denmark in 1917), and Rhineland/Germany (1918).

3. During and after World War II: U.S. occupation of Iceland and Greenland (1941), parts of Austria and Germany, including West Berlin (1945), Japan and South Korea (1945), Trieste/Italy (1947), and the administration of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands/West Pacific Micronesia (1947).

On the other hand, the United States have a long lasting tradition of turning its territories and possessions into states when imperatives of the times have required them to do so. To begin with, most U.S. states, except the original 13, were territories before they became states. The last U.S. statehood-granted territories were: Oklahoma (in 1907), New Mexico and Arizona (both in 1912), Hawaii, and Alaska (both in 1959).

Currently, there are 16 U.S. territories, five of which are permanently inhabited: American Samoa (AS), Guam (GU), Northern Mariana Islands (MP/CNMI), Puerto Rico (PR), and U.S. Virgin Islands (VI). The rest of the 11 territories are small islands, atolls, and reefs spread across the Pacific Ocean and the Caribbean Sea, with no permanent population. Also, there are certain constitutional and administrative differences between these territories. Some territories are or are not incorporated (as part of the United States proper), and do or do not have an organized government (that is, through an organic act passed by the U.S. Congress).

Thus, there were incorporated organized territories of the U.S. (such as Alaska and Hawaii until 1959). Currently, there are only U.S. territories that are incorporated unorganized (Palmyra Atoll), unincorporated organized (Guam and U.S. Virgin Islands), unincorporated unorganized (American Samoa and other islands, atolls and reefs in the Pacific Ocean and the Caribbean Sea), and commonwealths (Northern Mariana Islands and Puerto Rico). Other former U.S. territories have become independent countries (such as: the Philippines, Federated States of Micronesia, Marshall Islands, and Palau). It should be mentioned the fact that, with the exception of the Philippines, the other three former U.S. territories gained their independence under the Compact of Free Association (COFA), which allows the United States to

See STATEHOOD on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Why not, it's God-given

By AMBROSE BENNETT
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Ambrose Bennett is a former Public School System teacher representative. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.

Why not legalize marijuana especially when God has given us every herb to use for our benefit. Marijuana is not one of the "thou shalt not" in the Bible and the only time marijuana can be considered as being mentioned in the Bible is when God gave it to us to use. If marijuana was so darn bad God would have told us—duh! In fact, there is no mentioning of the use of marijuana in the thousands of Biblical texts which sends a clear signal that nothing is wrong with the use of marijuana. The only time marijuana could be considered bad is when a person uses it to try and be closer to God or to reach a higher religious plain which is not acceptable by the church as this kind of behavior is considered sorcery—you don't go to church high on pot. Marijuana should be freely grown for medical and recreational purposes and one can only assume that God feels the same way about the use of alcohol as he does for marijuana when it comes to socialization – both should be used in moderation for relaxing and socializing. So if a religious leader chooses to fight against the use of marijuana it will be their personal quest, not God's because marijuana was given to us to use ever since the beginning of time.

Given that we have the blessings of God and the support of the President and the Federal Government to legalize marijuana it should make a lot of people wonder what in the hell are our leaders waiting for to legalize it. The people who participated in the Senate hearings made it very clear that legalization for medical and recreational use was acceptable in the CNMI but the problem has been that no single leader wants to risk their political real estate for the people. FYI readers, I was told the medical bill by Sixto is dead. It is now common knowledge that medical use alone does not work and will in fact create more marijuana crimes. Guam and other states that approved medical use are already rethinking and working toward full legalization. A total of 23 states more are poised for full legalization in this year's elections.

The sick, some of whom are facing death, need legalization to become a reality to ease their suffering. Our economy that has been flirting with being in intensive care for the past decade needs legalization to capture the cannabis tourism market before Guam or Hawaii beats us to it. We need to create the new industries of legalization that offers 16 new careers that will yield hundreds of high paying jobs for only local U.S. citizens as alien workers cannot participate for obvious reasons of it still being against federal law. Only U.S. citizens can practice and get away with "civil disobedience" like we did during the Civil Rights Movement. We need legalization to pay off our many debts, especially to the Retirement Fund. We need legalization to properly subsidize our healthcare services on- and off-island. PSS needs legalization to build the new schools and fix up the old ones. The Judicial Branch needs legalization to expand judicial services and to eliminate the ridiculous burden of marijuana crimes on the new Drug Court. FYI readers, the CNMI is going to look so stupid and behind the times for prosecuting marijuana crimes in our new drug court that are not crimes in other states. I'm going to stop here as it should be getting ridiculously clear that we need to legalize marijuana and the reasons are virtually limitless.

All the major opposing arguments against legalization have been proven false and are all but dead issues now. Everything from arguments that the children would go crazy over marijuana to claims that marijuana was going to make people crazy are now in the myth/fiction section. So do yourself and the CNMI a big favor by calling your senator and congressperson to support a legislative initiative for this coming election or the CNMI will end up dead last again when it comes to finding and reaping the benefits of change and prosperity in America.

President Kennedy gave us a great "guiding philosophy" when it comes to tough issues and challenges that have plagued or haunted mankind. When asked why America should go into space he said "why not" and now look at the many doors space has opened for mankind. The same is true with marijuana, which is why we should be saying why not legalize it because we already know it will open many new and prosperous doors for the entire society that does legalize it. Colorado has shown us the way we just need to follow it is just that easy. One people one direction for full legalization!

PS: I know someone thinking they are a so perfect and god like is going to try and talk about me for mentioning God, but if God is truly involved everywhere and in everything, I'm sure he doesn't mind me mentioning his stance on this subject as it is written in the Bible. So if you want to complain you need to first ask God why did he gave us marijuana? We know it was not for nothing and it certainly wasn't meant to create criminals for using it. If you want to complain about this essay think about these facts because God has given his OK to marijuana use so please direct your complaint to God not me—he can hear you.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Obama to the Supreme Court

I have a generally good imagination. I have a great creative imagination. I am probably as well read on current issues as the average American who will vote in the upcoming election for POTUS. Nowhere in my wildest dreams, thoughts, pensive moments, contemplation, focus on the Supreme Court appointees, would I welcome Donald Trump making an appointment to that august body. I certainly have no objection to our current POTUS being appointed to the Supreme Court. He is a constitutional scholar who graduated from Harvard law school. I also don't care for the five times forwarded SPAM mail which uses scare tactics about the results of not voting for Trump. It is absolute constipated conservative twaddle. The "game" is far from "over." More demagoguery, lack of quality of character, flip flopping on major issues, refusal to divulge tax returns, and total lack of responsible leadership qualities will continue to election day in November. Anybody applied for adult continuing education classes at Trump University lately?

Joseph B.Connolly
Via email

My Top 10 Unspoken Micronesian Rules

By THOMAS M. THORNBURGH
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

I consider myself very lucky to have grown up in Micronesia most of my life. Our islands were named Micronesia meaning small islands in Greek by Jules Dumont d'Urville's in 1832. He was a French explorer, naval officer and rear admiral, who explored the south and western Pacific. Prior to this, our islands were part of and called Polynesia.

As I grew up traversing our tiny universe of islands most of my life, I came to realize just how beautiful it is to have a variety of languages, cultures, and people. Like the striking colors of the rainbow, our people shine.

Besides the differences, we share many things in common. It is these common traits that make us all Micronesians.

I have lived on Falalop Ulithi, Yap Island, Pohnpei Island, and beautiful Saipan now. I lived briefly in the USA, but am glad to be back in the islands now and forever.

At NMPASI, I do some work on the lovely islands of Tinian and Rota, also visiting Guam frequently. I have many friends from throughout the Caroline Islands especially Chuuk, the Marshalls, Palau, and Guam (believe it or not).

I would say I have a pretty good perspective of how life is in Micronesia. It is for these reasons that I have come up with the following list. I apologize if I offend anyone. Enjoy my Top 10 countdown list of Unspoken Micronesian Rules:

10. Micronesian families are not nuclear, only extended with friends mixed in.

9. When meeting new Micronesians, we can usually tell which islands they are from.

8. All Micronesian languages have an older language that only the older people speak.

7. Fishing and farming in Micronesia have been replaced with air-conditioning, couches, and TVs.

6. At Micronesian gatherings, the men sit together, and the women sit together, separately.

5. When Micronesians are offered food, it is customary to refuse it at least twice.

4. Mixing your betel nut must take you at least five to ten minutes.

3. Micronesians mix betel nut as a response to a tough question.

2. Micronesians always ask people to eat, even if they have little to no food themselves.

1. True Micronesians treat everyone we meet with dignity and respect!

Micronesians are some of the warmest people you will find in the world. We find the time to get to know each other. Maybe it is because we are on tiny rocks or coral in the middle of the sea.

Whatever the case, our diversity makes us beautiful, while our similarities transcend our differences. When we meet each other in the mainland or elsewhere in the world, we find an instant connection to our coconut islands.

We Micronesians are all the same, whether you are from the Marshalls or Palau, the Marianas, or the Caroline Islands, or anywhere in between. We Micronesians share more in common than not, especially in the way we treat each other.

Because of our similarities and differences, I am proud to be Micronesian!

For more on treating people with dignity and respect, please do not hesitate to call on NMPASI at 235-7273/4; fax or TTY at 235-7275; or online at www.nmpasi.org.

STATEHOOD

From Page 10

have full authority over aid, defense, health care, and other government services (such as federal communications and postal service), plus the right to work in the U.S. and vice versa.

In spite of the various local organizational differences among these entities, the common denominator is that they all are (or, in case of few others, used to be) U.S. territories and, for the obvious aforementioned strategic, military, and economic reasons, there should start a serious and uninhibited approach toward granting—at least for five of them: AS, GU, MP/CNMI, PR, and VI—U.S. statehood. A step forward would be to attract the current COFA entities into the new federal construction. An inspiring movement, which we call STATEHOOD FOR U.S. TERRITORIES, coming from the top executive level (the President), in conjunction with its top legislative counterpart (the Congress), is expected in order to gather and channel the grassroots energies and resources toward this noble and visionary ideal. If properly implemented and accomplished, this country project or national plan is able to assure a perennial place in history for its initiators. And, indeed, Statehood For U.S. Territories can find its natural inception, and also have a historical chance, within the already popular trend of "making America great(er) again." Literally.

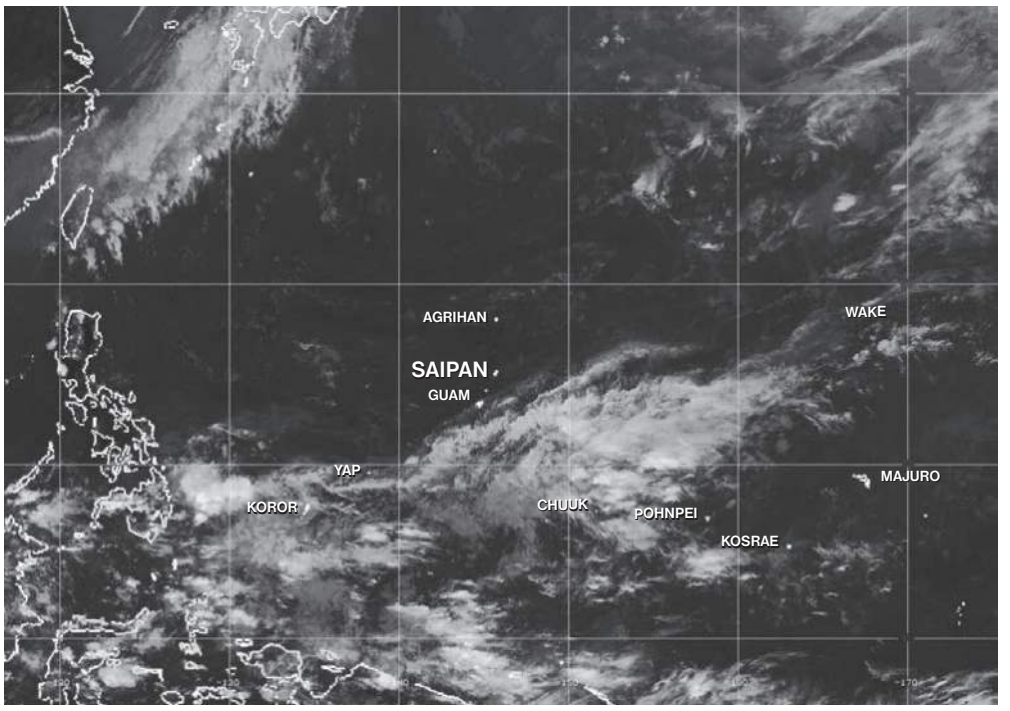
Tiberiu Dianu is a legal scholar, book author, graduate of the American University Washington College of Law in Washington, D.C., the University of Manchester Faculty of Law in Manchester, U.K., and an exchange scholar of the Oxford University in Oxford, U.K. He currently lives in Washington, D.C., and works for various government and private agencies.

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00 PM, MONDAY, MAY 16, 2016

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A tropical disturbance is centered southwest of Koror near Sonsorol at 5N132E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are in patchy areas across the Republic of Palau and south of Yap south of a line from 9N130E to 9N135E to 6N140E. Trade-wind convergence and upper-level divergence are producing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms in areas mainly affecting Chuuk state. One area near Chuuk is between 11N and 6N from 145E to 152E. Other areas are northeast of Chuuk between 12N and 10N from 152E to 156E and southeast of Chuuk within 100 miles of 4N154E. Low-level convergence is causing scattered showers from south of Pohnpei to near Kosrae within 60 miles of a line from 4N157E to 5N165E.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia

Guam And Rota	Partly Cloudy	▲87	▼79
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼78
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲91	▼79
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼80
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲88	▼79
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼80
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲85	▼80

Around the Globe

Auckland	Thundershowers	▲66	▼54
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	▲88	▼59
Hong Kong	Mostly Cloudy	▲82	▼75
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲85	▼73
London	Partly Cloudy	▲67	▼52
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲75	▼57
Manila	Thunderstorms	▲93	▼78
Melbourne	Mostly Cloudy	▲65	▼53
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲86	▼77
New York	Windy	▲61	▼45
Osaka	Showers	▲80	▼59
Paris	Mostly Cloudy	▲60	▼47
Pusan	Rain	▲67	▼52
Rome	Rain	▲69	▼53
Salem	Cloudy	▲68	▼47
San Francisco	Sunny	▲68	▼54
Seoul	Sunny	▲79	▼51
Tokyo	Rain	▲71	▼56
Washington, DC	Sunny	▲68	▼53

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Tides

Saipan Harbor

5:41 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
12:30 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.5 Feet
6:23 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.5 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:48 AM	6:39 PM
Wednesday	5:48 AM	6:39 PM
Thursday	5:47 AM	6:40 PM
Friday	5:47 AM	6:40 PM
Saturday	5:47 AM	6:41 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	3:00 PM	2:38 AM
Wednesday	3:47 PM	3:16 AM
Thursday	4:34 PM	3:54 AM
Friday	5:21 PM	4:34 AM
Saturday	6:10 PM	5:15 AM

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 10, 2016

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA2924	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA2922	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA2921	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA2920	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA2928	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA2926	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA2921	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA2921	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL297	4:20pm	7:05pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	4:35am	8:30am	Daily
7C3401	4:30pm	8:25pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA2924/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA2924/PR111	4:15am	9:15am	Daily via GUM
UA2922/183	8:40am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA2922/193	8:40am	10:35pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR
UA2921/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM
UA2921/193	1:30pm	10:35pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR
UA2921/191	1:30pm	8:55am+1	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA2920/183	2:20pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM
UA2920/193	2:20pm	10:35pm	2 via GUM-ROR
UA2920/191	2:20pm	8:55am+1	2, 6 via GUM
UA2928/191	6:05pm	8:55am+1	1, 2, 5, 6 via GUM
UA2926/191	9:50pm	8:55am+1	1, 2, 5, 6 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA2922/159	8:40am	9:55pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA2921/159	1:30pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA2920/159	2:20pm	9:55pm	3, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA2923	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA2925	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA2921	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA2920	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA2927	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA2929	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA2920	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA2920	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	10:10am	3:30pm	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3404	10:10pm	3:30am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA190/2927	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA190/2929	9:55am	9:20pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA2925	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA192/2925	9:45pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA192/2920	9:45pm	1:50pm+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM-Rota
UA192/2927	9:45pm	5:35pm+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA192/2929	9:45pm	9:20pm+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA184/2925	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA184/2920	11:30pm	1:50pm+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA184/2927	11:30pm	5:35pm+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA184/2929	11:30pm	9:20pm+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA116/2925	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA116/2921	9:55pm	1:00pm+1	3, 6 via GUM
UA116/2920	9:55pm	1:50pm+1	1, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA116/2927	9:55pm	5:35pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA116/2929	9:55pm	9:20pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju AirETD: Estimated Time of Departure;ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily
1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO ROTA

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

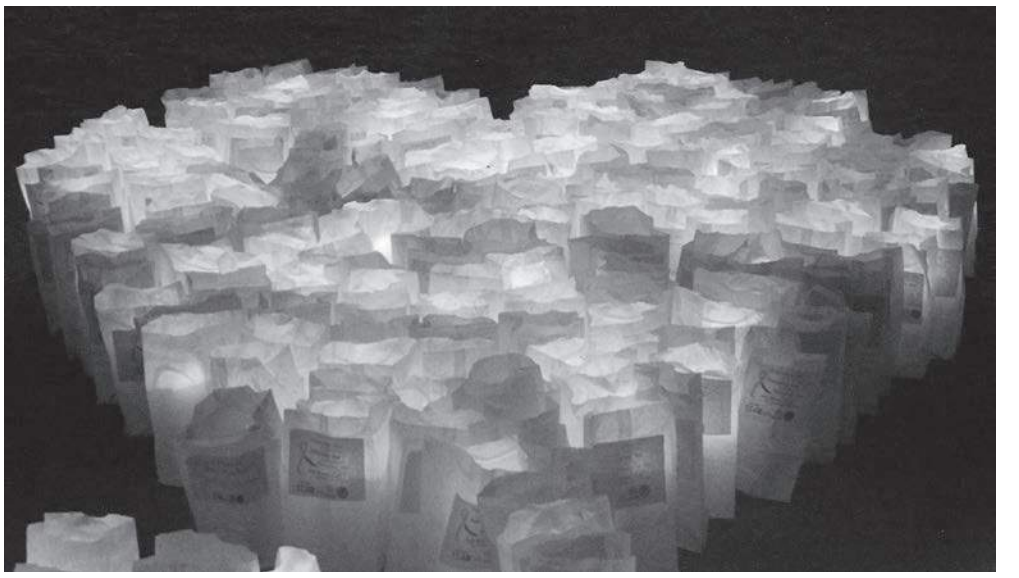
ROTA TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

2016 Marianas March Against Cancer

MACKENZIE PEREZ

The Marianas High School Color and Saber Guards lead the entrance of colors at the start of the 2016 Marianas March Against Cancer last Friday at the Hopwood Junior High School grounds in Chalan Piao.



A set of luminaries are arranged into a shape of a heart.

JON PEREZ

JON PEREZ

Some of the cancer survivors from Team Courage were honored and given medals for winning their battle against the dreaded disease.

JON PEREZ

MMAC overall committee chair Geri Dela Cruz, right, gets emotional after she was among the persons that cancer survivor Angel Ray T. Guerrero thanked in his speech.

MACKENZIE PEREZ

Team Mariana Resort & Spa/Hopwood Junior High School waits for their turn to be called on the stage.

MACKENZIE PEREZ

Team Best Sunshine International/Chacha Lancheros.

MACKENZIE PEREZ

Team Northern Mariana Islands Football Association captain Jershwin Angeles, center, looks on as two of their members perform some freestyle football skills.

MACKENZIE PEREZ

Fire cadets along with members from Team Joeten Dolphins and Team Lady Diann Torres/Northern Marianas College light up the luminaries remembering those who lost their battle against cancer.

JON PEREZ

Team Tan Holdings/Kagman High School prepares to head toward the front of the state.

JON PEREZ

Angel Ray T. Guerrero, third left, and his family: Father Rep. Joseph "Lee Pan" Guerero, fourth left, and mother Victoria Guerrero, fifth left.

Business

S. Korea to fine Nissan for allegedly bogus emission data

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—South Korea's Environment Ministry said Monday that it will fine Nissan's South Korean operation for manipulating emissions tests on its sports utility vehicle models, an allegation Nissan is denying.

The ministry said it will fine Nissan Korea Co. 330 million won ($28,000) and recall 814 Qashiqai vehicles sold since November. It also plans to file a complaint with prosecutors against the head of Nissan's South Korean operation.

Hong Dong-kon, a director at the ministry, said the SUV's emission reduction device stopped operating when the engine's temperature reaches 35 Celsius (86 Fahrenheit), about 30 minutes after the engine began to work.

"Usually, some cars turn off the emission reduction device when the temperature reaches 50 degrees Celsius, to prevent the engine from overheating. The Qashiqai was the only vehicle that turned it off at 35 degrees," Hong said in a press conference. When the emission reduction device stopped working, the Nissan vehicle's level of emissions was about the same or slightly higher than that of Volkswagen diesel cars that were fined for cheating emissions.

"All auto experts expressed the opinion that it was clearly a manipulation of the emissions reduction device," he said.

Nissan Motor Co. in Japan denied any wrongdoing. It said South Korean authorities' findings differed from those of the European Union, which concluded that Nissan vehicles used no illegal devices. The Japanese company said it will assess the situation and continue to work with South Korean authorities.

"Nissan has not and does not employ illegal defeat or cheat devices in any of the cars that we make," it said in a statement.

The South Korean government investigated 20 diesel car models sold in South Korea following the scandal over Volkswagen's admission that it had equipped cars with software that could limit emissions when cars were tested by regulators.

Will robot cars drive traffic congestion off a cliff?

WASHINGTON (AP)—Self-driving cars are expected to usher in a new era of mobility, safety and convenience. The problem, say transportation researchers, is that people will use them too much.

AP

In this May 13, 2014 file photo, a Google self-driving car goes on a test drive near the Computer History Museum in Mountain View, Calif.

Experts foresee robot cars chauffeuring children to school, dance class and baseball practice. The disabled and elderly will have new mobility. Commuters will be able to work, sleep, eat or watch movies on the way to the office. People may stay home more because they can send their cars to do things like pick up groceries they've ordered online.

Researchers believe the number of miles driven will skyrocket. It's less certain whether that will mean a corresponding surge in traffic congestion, but it's a clear possibility.

Gary Silberg, an auto industry expert at accounting firm KPMG, compares it to the introduction of smartphones. "It will be indispensable to your life," he said. "It will be all sorts of things we can't even think of today."

Cars that can drive themselves under limited conditions are expected to be available within five to 10 years. Versions able to navigate under most conditions may take 10 to 20 years.

Based on focus groups in Atlanta, Denver and Chicago, KPMG predicts autonomous "mobility-on-demand" services—think Uber and Lyft without a driver—will result in double-digit increases in travel by people in two age groups: those over 65, and those 16 to 24.

Vehicles traveled a record 3.1 trillion miles in the U.S. last year. Increased trips in autonomous cars by those two age groups would boost miles traveled by an additional 2 trillion miles annually by 2050, KPMG calculated. If self-driving cars without passengers start running errands, the increase could be double that.

And if people in their middle years, when driving is at its peak, also increase their travel, that yearly total could reach 8 trillion miles. "This could be massive," Silberg said.

Driverless cars are expected to make travel both safer and cheaper. With human error responsible for 90 percent of traffic accidents, they're expected to sharply reduce accidents, driving down the cost of insurance and repairs.

But the biggest cost of car travel is drivers' time, said Don MacKenzie, a University of Washington transportation researcher. That cost comes down dramatically when people can use their travel time productively on other tasks.

A study by MacKenzie and other researchers published in the journal Transportation Research: Part A estimates that the vehicles can cut the cost of travel by as much as 80 percent. That in turn drives up miles traveled by 60 percent.

"You are talking about a technology that promises to make travel safer, cheaper, more convenient. And when you do that, you'd better expect people are going to do more of it," MacKenzie said.

There's a fork ahead in this driverless road, says a report by Lauren Isaac, manager of sustainable transportation at WSP/Parsons Brinckerhoff, that envisions either utopia or a nightmare.

In the best case, congestion is reduced because driverless cars and trucks are safer and can travel faster with reduced space between them. Highway lanes can be narrower because vehicles won't need as much margin for error. There will be fewer accidents to tie up traffic. But those advantages will be limited as long as driverless cars share roads with conventional cars, likely for decades.

Germany: Police arrest over 100 people at anti-coal protest

BERLIN (AP)—German police say they have arrested more than 100 people demonstrating against a coal mining in eastern Germany.

Cottbus police say the protesters were among about 300 people who had forced their way onto the site of the Schwarze Pumpe coal-fired power plant late Saturday. Two protesters were injured during the police operation, which was continuing Sunday.

The protest was organized by the groups Klimatecamp (Climate Camp) and EndeGelaende, which loosely translates as "it's finished now." Their goal is to prevent the mining and use of coal, which is considered a major source of carbon emissions that are contributing to climate change.

The German news agency dpa quoted the plant operator, the Swedish company Vattenfall, as saying the protest is preventing supplies from reaching the power station.

Think of yourself first when telling management about your retirement

YOUR OFFICE COACH

By MARIE G. MCINTYRE
Tribune News Service

Marie G. McIntyre is a workplace coach and the author of "Secrets to Winning at Office Politics." Send in questions and get free coaching tips at http://www.yourofficecoach.com, or follow her on Twitter @officecoach.

Q: My husband says I should provide 12 months notice before leaving my job. After 10 years with this company, I plan to retire when I turn 62 in 18 months. Because I manage a complex program that culminates in a large annual meeting, and this position has a fairly long learning curve.

According to my husband, I need to give management a year to hire a replacement who can follow me through an entire program cycle. However, I'm pretty sure the budget won't support this. Do you think giving a year's notice is realistic?

A: Perhaps your hubby should stop thinking about management and start thinking about you. By considering only the company's perspective, he is completely overlooking significant risks to your own security and well-being.

When employees announce their departure, managers immediately begin formulating replacement plans. People who provide lengthy notice can suddenly find themselves included in a layoff or reorganized into oblivion well before their planned exit date. Many sad souls who relied on the kindness of management have learned the hard way that when staffing decisions are involved, business comes first.

Another concern is that personal circumstances can alter considerably over the course of a year. While early retirement may seem attractive at the moment, a sudden change in health or finances could make that prospect less appealing. And there's no way to predict your employer's willingness to rescind an established plan.

If an unfortunate circumstance forced you to abandon this job tomorrow, management would undoubtedly find a way to cope. So a notice period of several weeks should be quite manageable, especially if your successor can still get in touch after you leave.

When determining the appropriate interval, consider both the standard notification period in your company and the application deadline for any retirement benefits. The final decision should based on your own financial and emotional interests, because your bosses are quite capable of looking out for themselves.

Q: During a recent staff meeting, my co-worker's condescending attitude made me so angry that I completely lost my temper. I flew into a blind rage and got right up in his face and screamed at him. His arrogance has driven me crazy for the past three years.

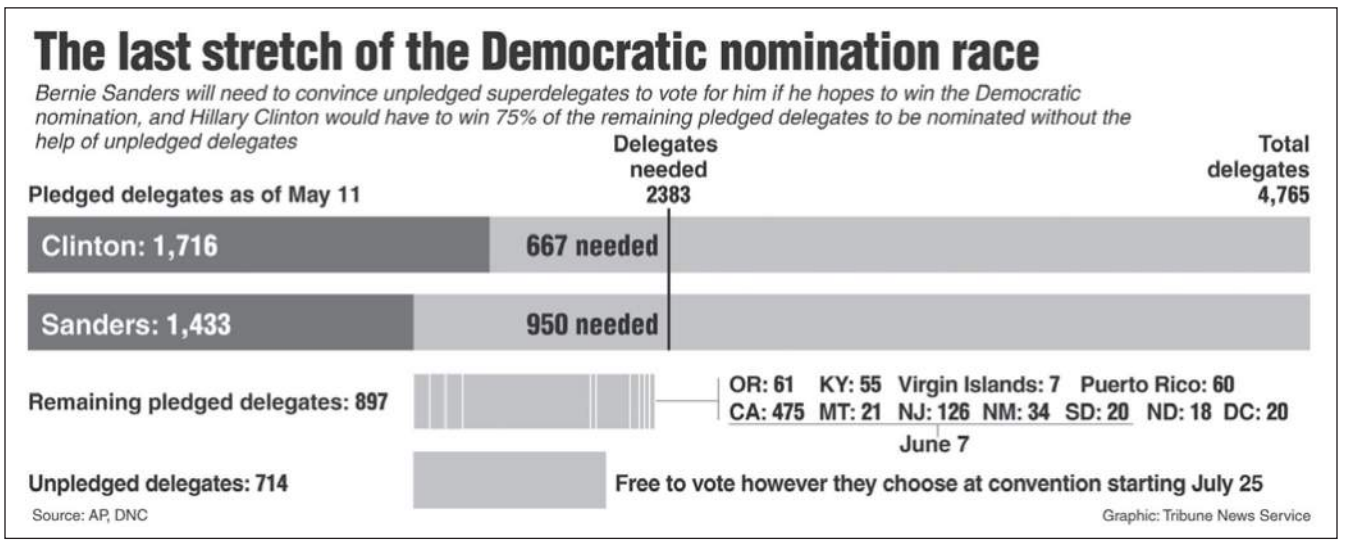
Although I know this was inappropriate, I don't feel as sorry as people seem to think I should. I also have no desire to apologize for my outburst. Some colleagues have advised me to seek counseling, but I don't know if that's really necessary.

A: When a hostile reaction is completely out of proportion to the immediate cause, it usually means that long-simmering anger has finally reached a boiling point. If this unexpected rage was a one-time occurrence, perhaps a concerned mentor or friend can help determine why this guy triggers such strong emotions and how you can avoid future outbursts.

But if you are generally prone to explosions of temper, then professional anger management counseling is strongly recommended. Otherwise, your unfortunate tendency to attack may eventually wreak havoc on both your career and your personal life.

Nation

Clinton campaigns in Kentucky before Tuesday's primary


The last stretch of the Democratic nomination race
Bernie Sanders will need to convince unpledged superdelegates to vote for him if he hopes to win the Democratic nomination, and Hillary Clinton would have to win 75% of the remaining pledged delegates to be nominated without the help of unpledged delegates
Pledged delegates as of May 11
Delegates needed 2383
Total delegates 4,765
Clinton: 1,716
667 needed
Sanders: 1,433
950 needed
Remaining pledged delegates: 897
OR: 61 KY: 55 Virgin Islands: 7 Puerto Rico: 60
CA: 475 MT: 21 NJ: 126 NM: 34 SD: 20 ND: 18 DC: 20
June 7
Unpledged delegates: 714
Free to vote however they choose at convention starting July 25
Source: AP, DNC
Graphic: Tribune News Service

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP)—Hillary Clinton is making a big final push in Kentucky, where rival Bernie Sanders hopes to extend his winning streak and further delay her clinching the Democratic presidential nomination.

Big-name surrogates have been sent, television ads are playing and Clinton is touring the state in advance of Tuesday's voting. On Sunday, the former secretary of state dropped in at Louisville churches and held rallies in Louisville and Fort Mitchell. Sanders on Sunday made a swing through Kentucky as well.

"We need a president who will work every single day to make life better for American families," Clinton said at a union training center in Louisville. "We want somebody who can protect us and work with the rest of the world. Not talk about building walls, but building bridges."

While Clinton leads Sanders by nearly 300 pledged delegates going into Tuesday's primaries in Kentucky and Oregon, the Vermont senator continues to win contests and has pledged to stay in the race until the July convention. With Donald Trump set as the presumptive Republican nominee, Clinton's team would like to turn their attention to the general election contest, but they still can't fully make that shift.

A win in at least one of the two upcoming contests would give Clinton momentum heading into the primaries in California and New Jersey in early June. Oregon is favorable terrain for Sanders, but Clinton's campaign thinks the race is competitive in Kentucky, where she planned to spend Sunday and Monday courting voters.

"It will be close, but either way, as with all the contests this month, we will gain additional delegates and move that much closer to clinching the nomination," Clinton spokesman Brian Fallon said in an email.

Clinton easily won the Kentucky primary over President Barack Obama in 2008. But this time she has come under criticism in parts of the state after saying in March that "we're going to put a lot of coal miners and coal companies out of business." Clinton later said she misspoke, but the comment has drawn fire in mining communities.

On Sunday in Louisville and in Fort Mitchell, Clinton touted her plan for coal country. Her proposals include protecting miners' health care coverage and retirement programs, investing in infrastructure in mining communities and repurposing mines. Before a cheering crowd in a Fort Mitchell backyard, Clinton pledged to put husband Bill Clinton—who won the state in 1992 and 1996 -"in charge of revitalizing the economy." She provided no further details, but during Bill Clinton's administration, economic growth averaged 4 percent per year, median family income rose and the budget deficit was turned into a surplus.

On more than one issue, GOP's Trump sounds like a Democrat

NEW YORK (AP)—As he tries to charm Republicans still skeptical of his presidential candidacy, Donald Trump has a challenge: On several key issues, he sounds an awful lot like a Democrat.

And on some points of policy, such as trade and national defense, the billionaire businessman could even find himself running to the left of Hillary Clinton, his likely Democratic rival in the general election.

Trump is a classic Republican in many ways. He rails against environmental and corporate regulations, proposes dramatically lower tax rates and holds firm on opposing abortion rights. But the presumptive GOP nominee doesn't fit neatly into a traditional ideological box.

"I think I'm running on common sense," he said in a recent interview with The Associated Press. "I think I'm running on what's right. I don't think in terms of labels."

Perhaps Trump's clearest break with Republican orthodoxy is on trade, which the party's 2012 platform said was "crucial for our economy" and a path to "more American jobs, higher wages, and a better standard of living."

Trump says his views on trade are "not really different" from the rest of his party's, yet he pledges to rip up existing deals negotiated by "stupid leaders" who failed to put American workers first. He regularly slams the North American Free Trade Agreement involving the U.S, Mexico and Canada, and opposes a pending Asia-Pacific pact, positions shared by Democratic candidate Bernie Sanders.

"The problem is the ideologues, the very conservative group, would say everything has to be totally free trade," Trump said. "But you can't have free trade if the deals are going to be bad. And that's what we have."

Trump long has maintained that he has no plans to scale back Social Security benefits or raise its qualifying retirement age. The position puts him in line with Clinton. She has said she would "defend and expand" Social Security, has ruled out a higher retirement age and opposes reductions in cost-of-living adjustments or other benefits.

"There is tremendous waste, fraud and abuse, but I'm leaving it the way it is," Trump recently told Fox Business Network.

It's a stance at odds with the country's top-ranked elected Republican, House Speaker Paul Ryan of Wisconsin, who has advocated fundamental changes to Social Security and other entitlement programs. But it's also one that Trump argues keeps him in line with the wishes of most voters.

In surprising turnabout, Oklahoma eyes Medicaid expansion

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP)—Despite bitter resistance in Oklahoma for years to President Barack Obama's health care overhaul, Republican leaders in this conservative state are now confronting something that alarms them even more: a huge $1.3 billion hole in the budget that threatens to do widespread damage to the state's health care system.

So, in what would be the grandest about-face among rightward leaning states, Oklahoma is now moving toward a plan to expand its Medicaid program to bring in billions of federal dollars from President Obama's new health care system.

What's more, GOP leaders are considering a tax hike to cover the state's share of the costs.

"We're to the point where the provider rates are going to be cut so much that providers won't be able to survive, particularly the nursing homes," said Republican state Rep. Doug Cox, referring to possible cuts in state funds for indigent care that could cause some hospitals and nursing homes to close.

Despite furious opposition by conservative groups, Republican Gov. Mary Fallin and some GOP legislative leaders are pushing the plan, and support appears to be growing in the overwhelmingly Republican Legislature. Details have not been ironed out but the proposal is based on an Indiana program that received federal approval.

President Obama called on states to expand their Medicaid insurance for low-income residents as part of his 2014 health overhaul designed to shrink the population of uninsured Americans. Most Democratic-led states did so, along with a handful of GOP states.

But in Oklahoma, even with 20 percent of its population on Medicaid, it's been no way, no how. Until now.

A bust in the oil patch has decimated state revenues, compounded by years of income tax cuts and growing corporate subsidies intended to make the state more business-friendly.

Oklahoma's Medicaid agency has warned doctors and other health care providers of cuts of up to 25 percent in what the state pays under Medicaid.

"We are nearing a colossal collapse of our health care system in Oklahoma," warned Craig Jones, the president of the Oklahoma Hospital Association, which represents more than 135 hospitals and health care systems in the state. "We have doctors turning away patients. We have people with mental illnesses who are going without treatment. Hospitals are closing, and this is only going to get worse this summer if the Legislature does not act immediately to turn this around."

In the poverty-wracked southeastern corner of the state, where 96 percent of babies in the McCurtain Memorial Hospital are born to Medicaid patients, most health care would end, said hospital CEO Jahni Tapley.

Texas bus company in crash has faced vehicle problems before

LAREDO, Texas (AP)—The small South Texas bus company involved in a rollover crash that killed eight people and injured 44 others had twice been ordered by Louisiana state inspectors in 2015 to take one of its buses off the road to fix brake and emergency exit problems.

Records posted online by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration show that regulators ordered OGA Charters to sideline the bus in May 2015 because of brake problems and again in August of last year when they were getting worse.

It was not immediately clear Sunday if that was same charter bus that crashed Saturday about 46 miles north of Laredo, Texas, or what steps the company took to fix the problems with its sidelined bus between inspections.

National Transportation Safety Board investigators arrived Sunday in Laredo to try to determine a cause of the crash, something that spokesman Keith Holloway said can take months.

Investigators examined the bus and the scene Sunday, Holloway said. The agency will look at the operations of the company as part of its investigation and has requested inspection and maintenance records, he said.

According to federal online records, OGA Charters has two buses and the Motor Carrier Safety Administration had it listed with a "satisfactory" rating in May 2014.

Records noted that the company had reported no crashes in the last two years prior to Saturday. But six driver and vehicle inspections since 2014 found 15 total violations, ranging from driver records and hours they were on the road, to vehicle maintenance problems.

The May 2015 inspection in Louisiana reported brake connections with leaks, problems with the automatic brake adjustment system and a discolored windshield. The bus was put out of service because 20 percent or more of its brakes were defective.

The records don't name the Louisiana community where the inspection occurred.

Another Louisiana inspection just four months later found "general" brake problems, citing some of the same problems, and the emergency exit issue. Details of the emergency exit problem were not immediately available. The report also noted the discolored windshield problem and again ordered the bus out of service.

Asia

Tokyo governor under fire for $1.8K hotel room, lavish trips

TOKYO (AP)—The governor of Tokyo has triggered public outrage for flying first-class and staying at up to $1,800-a-night suites in Europe and America during official trips.

Gov. Yoichi Masuzoe and his entourage spent 213 million yen ($2 million) on eight trips in his first two years in office, an investigation by opposition lawmakers found. He also is being criticized for using an official car and a driver to travel regularly to his vacation house at a hot springs resort outside Tokyo. At a news conference Friday, Masuzoe said he will stop using the city car for his hot springs visits and promised to seek ways to cut back on spending.

Masuzoe argues that the upscale travel is needed to make the governor of Japan's largest city look prestigious overseas. He has promised to review and disclose his finances after his office received thousands of angry calls and emails.

Some examples of his spending:

■ **$1,800 SUITES IN LONDON, PARIS**

His priciest hotel room was a 198,000 yen ($1,820) per night suite at the Conrad London St. James during a 2015 trip to London and Paris to observe World Cup rugby. (Japan is hosting the 2019 World Cup.) That's nearly five times the maximum allowed for the prime minister and Tokyo governor for travel expenses under the law for civil servants, although he is allowed to spend more if authorized by the city's human resources department, which he did. Before three nights at the Conrad, he stayed two at the almost equally expensive Paris Le Grand. Masuzoe also spent 2.7 million yen ($24,400) flying first class.

AP

Tokyo Gov. Yoichi Masuzoe scratches his nose reporters questions during a press conference in Tokyo, Friday, May 13, 2016.

■ **BIG ENTOURAGE**

The investigation by the opposition Communist Party found that Masuzoe spent an average of 27 million yen ($244,000) on his first eight trips, more than former Gov. Shintaro Ishihara, himself known as somewhat spendthrift. Ishihara averaged 17 million yen on 28 overseas visits during his 11-year tenure. The large size of Masuzoe's delegations—nearly twice that of Ishihara's—is the main reason for the higher costs. The total cost of the London and Paris trip alone, which included 19 staff, came to more than 50 million yen ($463,000).

■ **FIVE-STAR HOTEL IN WASHINGTON**

Masuzoe has acknowledged that he stayed at the Intercontinental The Willard Washington D.C. at a rate of 150,000 yen ($1,390) per night on his ninth trip, which was not part of the Communist Party investigation. He also stayed at the Kitano New York, a favorite of Japanese Imperial families and celebrities, and spent more than 2 million yen to fly first class to New York, where he rang the opening bell at the New York Stock Exchange, and Washington, where he attended cherry blossom events.

■ **AIRPORT VIP ROOM**

In a rare luxury for a Japanese governor, Masuzoe started renting VIP rooms at airports while waiting for flights. During a 2014 trip to Berlin and London, he spent 1.27 million yen ($11,700) on airport VIP rooms. The trip with a 20-member delegation to the 2012 Olympic venue in London and "friendship" city Berlin was by far the costliest at 70 million yen ($642,000) for five nights. Tokyo is hosting the 2020 Summer Olympics.

■ **LONDON MAYOR**

Former London Mayor Boris Johnson and his staff spent 38,000 pounds ($55,100) on a four-day visit to Japan in October, according to the London mayor's office, about one-tenth of Masozue's five-day mission to London and Paris last year. The costs for Johnson's trip were posted on the London mayor's office website following a public information request by an independent Tokyo lawmaker. Johnson flew business class for 3,842 pounds ($5,570), and used British Airways "On Business Points" on his return. His accommodation, with a complimentary upgrade to a suite, totaled 689 pounds ($999) for four nights, less than the one-night room charge for Masuzoe.

China says US report hypes up its so-called military threat

BEIJING (AP)—China's defense ministry criticized a U.S. report assessing its island-building efforts in the South China Sea, saying it "hyped up" China's so-called military threat.

The U.S. Defense Department's annual report on China's military activities had "wilfully distorted China's national defense policy," said ministry spokesman Yang Yujun, adding that the U.S. was too suspicious.

China expressed its "strong dissatisfaction and firm opposition" to the Pentagon report, Yang said.

"China follows a national defense policy that is defensive in nature," he said. "China's deepening military reforms and its strengthening of weapons and equipment building are aimed at maintaining sovereignty, security and territorial integrity and guaranteeing China's peaceful development."

The report to the U.S. Congress on Friday said that China was focused on developing and weaponizing the islands it has built in the disputed waters of the South China Sea so it will have greater control over the maritime region without resorting to armed conflict.

It accused China of "increasingly assertive efforts to advance its national sovereignty and territorial claims" and a lack of transparency about its growing military capabilities that are causing tensions with other countries in the region.

Yang said it was the United States that had been "frequently sending military aircraft and warships to the South China Sea to make a show of force."

S. Korea, US, Japan plan joint drills on N. Korean threat

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—South Korea, the United States and Japan will hold their first joint military training next month focused on cooperating to detect signs of missile launches from North Korea and trace missile trajectories, a Seoul defense official said Monday.

The drills set for around June 28 will be held on the sidelines of biennial multinational naval exercises scheduled for waters of Hawaii from June to August, which the three countries regularly attend, the official said requesting anonymity citing department rules.

The trilateral drills will involve Aegis-equipped ships from each of the three countries, but that they will not involve missile-interception training, the official said. The three countries have held joint search-and-rescue drills in the past.

The training follows the 2014 intelligence-gathering pact among the three countries designed to better cope with North Korea's increasing nuclear and missile threats. It was the first such agreement among the three countries. An international standoff over North Korea has recently deepened after Pyongyang carried out its fourth nuclear test In January and a long-range rocket launch in February.

Washington regularly holds military drills with South Korea and Japan—which together host about 80,000 American troops—and share intelligence with them on a bilateral level. But Seoul and Tokyo don't, largely a result of lingering public resentments in South Korea against Japan over its 1910-1945 colonial rule of the Korean Peninsula.

The Korean Peninsula was divided into a U.S.-backed South Korea and a Soviet-supported, socialist North Korea at the end of the Japanese occupation. The two Koreas fought a devastating three-year war in the early 1950, which ended with an armistice, not a peace treaty.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Bangladesh police arrest suspect in gay activist's killing

DHAKA, Bangladesh (AP)—Police in Bangladesh say they have arrested a suspected Muslim militant for his alleged involvement in the killing last month of a gay rights activist and his friend in the capital. Police identified the suspect as Shariful Islam Shibab, a former member of a banned Islamic group Harkatul Jihad who joined another militant group, Ansarullah Bangla Team, in mid-2015. Munirul Islam, head of a newly-formed police counterterrorism unit, told a news conference on Sunday that Shibab was arrested in the southwestern district of Kushtia based on evidence from the investigation.

Murder suspect caught in China after 25 years on the run

BEIJING (AP)—Police in northeastern China say they have caught a suspected murderer who has been on the run for 25 years. An online statement from Shuangyashan city police says the man, identified only by his surname, Guo, allegedly killed six members of a family in 1991 "over a trivial matter." The murders took place in Heilongjiang province's Raohe county. The statement says Guo was detained on May 8 in the western region of Xinjiang, along with his wife, Wang. She was detained on suspicion of shielding a criminal.

Afghan capital locked down for massive demonstration

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—Afghanistan's capital was locked down on Monday as authorities prepared for a massive protest march by members of an ethnic minority group over the proposed route of a power line. By early morning, tens of thousands of members of the Hazara ethnic community had gathered in the west of Kabul to march toward the presidential palace, organizers said. Overnight, police had moved containers and concrete pylons into the commercial center of the capital and were preventing cars and pedestrians from entering. Main intersections and access roads were all closed, the usual peak hour traffic jams were nonexistent, and most shops remained shuttered.

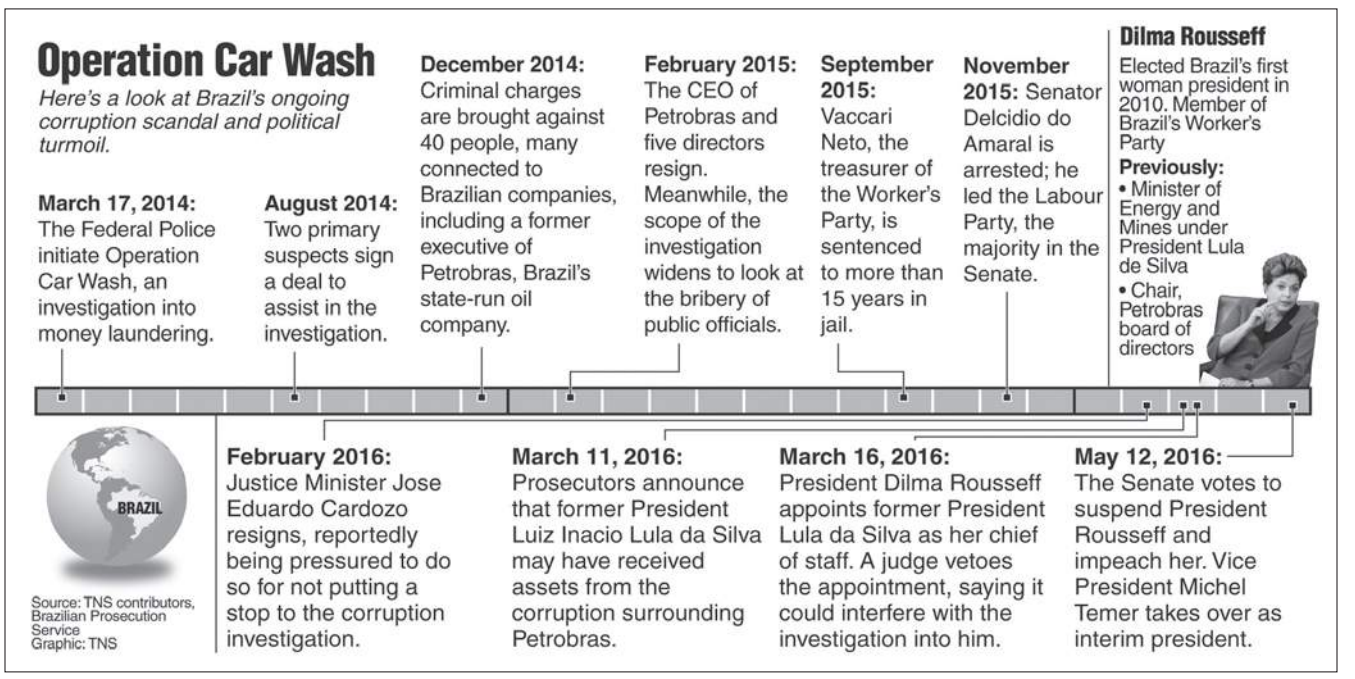
Armed police and rapid reaction forces took positions across the capital, with some corners covered with makeshift machine-gun posts.

Minority ethnic group supporters protest in Nepal's capital

KATHMANDU, Nepal (AP)—Hundreds of minority ethnic group supporters scuffled with police in Nepal's capital on Sunday, restarting protests against the government and the Himalayan nation's new constitution. The protesters blocked a main street leading to the prime minister's office in Kathmandu, creating traffic problems. They chanted slogans against the government and attempted to break through a police cordon, but were quickly pushed back. Police did not use force on the demonstrators. No one was injured. Security was stepped up, with hundreds of riot police guarding the main streets and government offices.

World

Post impeachment, Brazil's road ahead filled with challenges


Operation Car Wash
Here's a look at Brazil's ongoing corruption scandal and political turmoil.
March 17, 2014: The Federal Police initiate Operation Car Wash, an investigation into money laundering.
August 2014: Two primary suspects sign a deal to assist in the investigation.
December 2014: Criminal charges are brought against 40 people, many connected to Brazilian companies, including a former executive of Petrobras, Brazil's state-run oil company.
February 2015: The CEO of Petrobras and five directors resign. Meanwhile, the scope of the investigation widens to look at the bribery of public officials.
September 2015: Vaccari Neto, the treasurer of the Worker's Party, is sentenced to more than 15 years in jail.
November 2015: Senator Delcidio do Amaral is arrested; he led the Labour Party, the majority in the Senate.
Dilma Rousseff
Elected Brazil's first woman president in 2010. Member of Brazil's Worker's Party
Previously:
• Minister of Energy and Mines under President Lula de Silva
• Chair, Petrobras board of directors
February 2016: Justice Minister Jose Eduardo Cardozo resigns, reportedly being pressured to do so for not putting a stop to the corruption investigation.
March 11, 2016: Prosecutors announce that former President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva may have received assets from the corruption surrounding Petrobras.
March 16, 2016: President Dilma Rousseff appoints former President Lula da Silva as her chief of staff. A judge vetoes the appointment, saying it could interfere with the investigation into him.
May 12, 2016: The Senate votes to suspend President Rousseff and impeach her. Vice President Michel Temer takes over as interim president.
BRAZIL
Source: TNS contributors, Brazilian Prosecution Service
Graphic: TNS

SAO PAULO (AP)—To say that Michel Temer faces huge challenges would be an understatement.

Brazil's 75-year-old acting president must fight the Zika virus, which can cause birth defects and has ravaged thousands of families in poor northeastern states. He must rescue Latin America's largest economy from its worst recession since the 1930s, most likely by making painful—and protest-invoking—cuts to the pension system and social welfare spending.

He must win back the trust of a populace that has come to believe virtually all politicians, including him, are lining their pockets with taxpayer money.

And he must begin these gargantuan tasks with the Summer Olympics just months away and while his predecessor and former-ally-turned enemy, Dilma Rousseff, is living in the presidential residence and rallying supporters around assertions she was the victim of a coup led by Temer.

"This is going to be a real mess. The combination of all these factors at once is unbelievable," said Alexandre Barros, a Brasilia-based consultant. "Everybody is unhappy with the situation but nobody knows what to do."

For the sake of the nation's 200 million people, and for all the South American nations whose fortunes are tied to Brazil's powerhouse economy, one hopes that Temer does know what to do.

The career politician, who is married to a 32-year-old former beauty pageant contestant, took office on Thursday just hours after the Senate voted to impeach Rousseff for allegedly using illegal accounting tricks to hide deficits in the federal budget. Rousseff insists she has done nothing wrong, and vows to fight as the Senate holds a trial, a process that can take up to six months.

If the Senate votes to remove Rousseff, as is likely, Temer would complete her term that goes through 2018.

Temer is getting early kudos for one Cabinet choice: Finance Minister Henrique Meirelles is widely respected for serving as Central Bank chief during the boom years from 2003 to 2010.

Meirelles quickly signaled that he'll push to revamp labor laws to increase productivity and reform a pension system known for generous payouts and early retirement; many public workers can retire between their early and mid-50s.

Actually pulling that off will be very difficult. Many lawmakers in Congress rallied around the idea of ousting Rousseff, but building consensus around unpopular reforms could prove elusive. Still, the ongoing crisis combined with the reality that there will be no near-term rebound in the prices of commodities, Brazil's lifeblood, could be strong incentives for change.

Analysts also believe that Temer, who has said he won't run for president in 2018, will be thinking about his legacy. This could be Temer's last stint in any office: He was recently found guilty of violating campaign finance laws, a decision that makes him ineligible to run for office for eight years, pending likely appeals.

"If Temer gets the ball rolling on major reforms, this would take him to the level of statesman," said Marcos Troyjo, a professor at Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs.

Aside from Meirelles, however, Temer is already coming under sharp criticism for the rest of his Cabinet, which is widely criticized as an example of vast inequality in a nation that is predominantly non-white.

Temer's entire Cabinet is made up of white men, including some with very thin resumes and others who are under a cloud of corruption allegations.

IS attack and bombings leave 29 dead across Iraq

BAGHDAD (AP)—The Islamic State group launched a coordinated assault Sunday on a natural gas plant north of Baghdad that killed at least 14 people, while a string of other bomb attacks in or close to the capital killed 15 others, Iraqi officials said.

The dawn attack on the gas plant began with a suicide car bombing at the facility's main gate in the town of Taji, about 20 kilometers (12 miles) north of Baghdad. Several suicide bombers and militants then broke into the plant and clashed with security forces. The dead included six civilians and eight security forces; 27 troops were wounded.

The IS-affiliated Aamaq news agency credited a group of "caliphate soldiers" for the attack.

Closed-circuit television images showed as an explosion hit inside the facility. As flames engulfed the facility and nearby palm trees, pedestrians were seen running for cover. A crowd gathered to watch as thick black smoke rose above the plant, sections of which were left in ruins. The top of one of the gas-processing units was blown off.

In a statement, Deputy Oil Minister Hamid Younis said firefighters managed to control and extinguish the fire. He said technicians were examining the damage. Hours after the attack, passers-by inspecting the damage posed for cell phone photos in front of the ruined complex.

Elsewhere, four separate bomb attacks left another 15 people dead and 46 wounded in the fifth-straight day of IS-claimed attacks in and around the Iraqi capital. Since Wednesday, more than 140 people have been killed in a spate of bombings in Baghdad and elsewhere.

The wave of attacks comes as Iraqi ground forces have achieved a number of key territorial victories against the extremist group.

Brett McGurk, the Obama administration's diplomatic point man in the international fight against the Islamic State group, told journalists in Jordan that the tide was turning against extremists. "This perverse caliphate is shrinking," said McGurk, a presidential envoy to the 66-member anti-IS coalition.

In the past month, IS has lost a swath of key territory along a supply route in Iraq's vast western Anbar province that the extremists had used to ferry fighters and supplies between Iraq and Syria. But after losing territory along the Euphrates River valley, that line has been cut, according to Iraqi and coalition officials.

New website helps Germans and migrants meet, talk about life

BERLIN (AP)—During the height of the migrant crisis in Europe last fall, Lasse Landt came to a startling realization.

Thousands of migrants were pouring into Germany every day, but the 36-year-old startup consultant from Berlin hadn't met a single one of them.

"It was all over the media, every day on the talk shows you had people talking about the refugee crisis. I had never seen a refugee," said Landt. "I just wanted to find out if it was real."

His experience is typical for most Germans, and many have volunteered with charitable groups in part to meet the migrants they're hearing so much about. But Landt went further—and the result is a kind of dating website for Germans and migrants, albeit without the romantic aspect.

Together with Khaled Alaswad, a 25-year-old Syrian he met at a computer coding class for migrants in Berlin, Landt started a project to help refugees and locals meet up. Called Let's integrate! , it allows users to pick a time and location and set up a "date."

The idea is to set as low a hurdle as possible for the meeting. No preparation is needed—people just need to show up and hopefully have a good conversation. Or if the language barrier is too high, have a conversation with hand signals.

Alaswad said his friendship with Landt has helped him land on his feet in Germany.

"If the refugees never talk face to face with a local person, they will never know anything about the culture here," he said. "There is just such a big difference between our culture and the German culture."

Germany registered around 1.1 million irregular migrants in 2015, most of them refugees from Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan. But with the closure of the Balkans migration route from Greece to Germany, the number of migrants coming in has dropped dramatically this year. So attention has now shifted to integrating the refugees, who will most likely spend several years, if not their whole lives, in Germany.

The authorities are focusing on having migrants learn the language and get jobs. The German government has promised to introduce subsidized workplaces earmarked for refugees.

Students released from 2 besieged Syrian areas to sit exams

BEIRUT (AP)—The Syrian government allowed hundreds of students to leave two besieged areas near Damascus to take their year-end exams over the weekend, even as other suburbs of the capital came under fierce attack.

The government is eager to show that it is still providing services, salaries, and pensions amid a devastating civil war, including to areas it does not control.

On Saturday and Sunday, government forces allowed around 360 students from the rebel-held Damascus suburb of Moadamiyeh and 68 students from the rebel-held town of Madaya to travel to government areas to sit their high school exams, according to activists and state media.

Both Moadamiyeh and Madaya are besieged by government forces, who have allowed relief groups only limited access- despite reports that civilians have died from starvation and lack of medical care.

The ninth-graders from Madaya who left to the nearby government-held town of Rawda Saturday were searched thoroughly by soldiers at the first checkpoint outside the town, according to Wafiqa Hashem, a teacher at Madaya's Mohammad Nassif secondary school.

It was the first time they were allowed to leave the town in 302 days, Madaya media activist Abdelwahab Ahmad said.

The siege will almost certainly leave a mark on the exam results.

Eighty percent of students have missed stretches of class this past school year because of hunger or cold, Hashem said. She said during the worst periods of the siege only five or six students would attend class at a time. Doctors Without Borders reported 16 siege-related deaths in Madaya in January alone.

"They were fighting for their lives, but they will make all efforts" to pass their exams, said Hashem.

Schools also struggled with power cuts and other shortages.

Since the government began allowing aid into the town earlier this year, student health improved. "They are playing sports again," said Hashem. But teachers have not had time to catch up on their curriculums.

Overdrive

AUTO REVIEW: 2016 Hyndai Sonata Limited doesn't stand out in congested hybrid class

By ROBERT DUFFER
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Hybrids are like the salad section on today's paleo-heavy, crossover-rich menu: You probably should, but there so many more appetizing selections.

It's a tough time to be a hybrid sedan. Internal combustion engines have improved their efficiency, crossovers are America's preferred segment and hybrids aren't worth the estimated 10 percent upcharge with a national gas price of about $2.10.

And yet, automakers continue to push hybrids to boost compliance with ever-increasing fuel economy standards. They're hoping consumers look beyond their immediate hunger to long-term health.

The redesigned 2016 Hyundai Sonata Hybrid Limited is much improved over its predecessor where it matters most, gaining 3 mpg in both city (39 mpg) and highway (43 mpg) fuel economy (41 mpg combined) thanks to a smaller combustion engine and a larger electric motor. The lighter, base model SE does it better by one mpg.

Despite edging out the redesigned Toyota Camry hybrid, the Sonata fuel economy still trails the Ford Fusion Hybrid, Honda Accord Hybrid, and the new Chevy Malibu Hybrid, which leads the segment with 46 mpg highway. The Accord hybrid, which is on hiatus for model year 2016 as production shifts from Ohio to Japan, gets 50 mpg city, 45 mpg highway, or 47 mpg combined.

The gas model Limited gets 36 mpg combined and costs $2,750 less than the hybrid. Hybrid owners could recoup the hybrid upcharge in five years, depending on gas prices, driving style and other variables. So the hybrid is still a good investment for longer-term car buyers.

The $30,100 Limited trim comes with 17-inch alloy wheels (16-inch for the base), power everything, heated front and rear seats, leather on the seats, steering and door, and woodlike dash trim. It's nice, but so are the $30,140 Toyota Camry Hybrid XLE and $30,520 Ford Fusion Hybrid Titanium. The Malibu Hybrid starts under $30,000 but isn't as well equipped.

Bottom line is they are very similar except for quirks of automotive character, like the egg in a Cobb or the anchovies in a Caesar.

To get all the advanced driver assist systems like forward collision warning, lane departure warning et al., you'll have to buck up another $4,500 in Hyundai's case as part of the Ultimate Package. It includes Hyundai's wonderful panoramic sunroof and its relatively good 8-inch touch screen and navigation system.

TNS
The second-generation 2016 Hyundai Sonata Hybrid, in Limited trim, is more fuel-efficient and roomier that the first version.

So what does stand out?

Trunk space increases by 10 percent to a best-in-class 13.3 cubic feet, thanks to a slimmer battery pack that fits under the trunk floor. This enables 60/40 split rear seats that fold down flush with the trunk floor to maximize storage. The Camry, Accord and Fusion hybrid batteries are located between the trunk floor and rear seat, causing a shelf in the Fusion and a wall in the Camry and Accord.

The roominess carries over to the inside. The Sonata Hybrid has the largest passenger volume of the class by 2 to 3 inches.

Behind the wheel, the transition between electric motor and gas engine doesn't seem as smooth as the Camry. It's not intrusive or rough, it's just not Toyota, who is the worldwide hybrid leader for a reason.

The four-cylinder engine uses a six-speed transmission that feels more like a traditional car, while most other hybrids use a continuously variable transmission, or something gearless like it. The accelerator is a bit more responsive, so there's a little less guilt than mashing the pedal of a full hybrid and hearing it cry. Eco mode handles the quiet electric-only driving under 20 mph, but it can also use all-electric power at speeds up to 75 mph by decoupling the gas engine. Not sure why you would want to cancel the engine at its peak efficiency on the highway, but you can.

Also behind the wheel, the Sonata has a user-friendly trifecta of redundant steering controls, touch screen, and good old dials and buttons. Most vehicle operations, from trip odometers to multimedia, can be accessed with the steering controls. There is a customizable 4.2-inch digital display in the center of the instrument cluster to gauge energy flow between the gas engine and electric motor, as well as multimedia functions, so you don't have to use the touch screen.

The Sonata hybrid is a satisfying dish in a marginalized, homogenized menu section. It doesn't stand out in price, fuel economy or styling, though it may be the roomiest.

A big salad may be enough for some shoppers, especially if you're Elaine Benes from "Seinfeld."

NUTS & BOLTS

2016 Hyundai Sonata Hybrid Limited at a glance

- Vehicle type: hybrid midsize sedan
- Base price: $30,100
- As tested: $34,960 (excluding $825 destination)
- Mpg: 39 city, 43 highway
- Engine: 2-liter four-cylinder with 38-kW motor
- Transmission: six-speed auto
- Parting shot: Roomier than other hybrids, but that's all

MOTORING Q&A: Check your pressure

By PAUL BRAND
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

Q: I recently purchased a 2004 Nissan Sentra with the four-cylinder 1.8-liter engine and 74,000 original miles. From day one it's had off-and-on hard starting. The dealer finally replaced the crankshaft position sensor, which seemed to help some. Then the starter failed, and my mechanic put in a new starter and another crankshaft position sensor. Now I'm back to square one—hard starting. My mechanic found no diagnostic trouble codes. What do you think the problem is?

A: Fuel pressure. Or more precisely, lack of it. There is no direct fuel pressure sensor in the engine management system. If fuel pressure bleeds down after the engine is shut down, it will take a period of cranking to build up fuel pressure to the required 51 pounds per square inch to run the engine. No code will be thrown because from the engine control module's point of view there's nothing wrong—it's just "out of gas," so to speak. Once fuel pressure comes up, the engine starts and runs normally as if nothing happened.

Here's a quick do-it-yourself test. Locate the fuel feed hose in the engine compartment and pinch it firmly between your gloved fingers. Have a helper turn the key to the on position. You should feel fuel pulses in the hose for one second, confirming that pressure is building up quickly.

If you don't, try turning the key on for two seconds, then off, repeating this a half-dozen times. Then try starting the engine. If it fires right up you have identified the issue—lack of fuel pressure.

Have your mechanic place a fuel pressure gauge between the fuel hose and the fuel feed line. Check for leaks and start the engine. Confirm that there's 51 psi fuel pressure at idle. Then shut down the engine and monitor how long the system holds fuel pressure. If it bleeds down very quickly—less than a minute—the problem is most likely in the fuel pump assembly in the fuel tank, which is accessible through an inspection plate under the rear seat. Nissan offers a fuel pump repair kit to fix this problem.

Q: What is your take on the continuously variable transmission technology being so widely adopted? I like today's multi-speed automatics. I suppose the CVTs are cheaper to produce, but can they possibly be as reliable as automatics? Reminds me of the old Buick Dynaflow Drive. Lots of rpm as the driveline works to catch up to the engine speed. Not so much reliability.

A: I've never liked the feel of a continuously variable transmission—except on snowmobiles and ATVs, where they are ideal for power transmission by keeping the engine in its most efficient rpm range regardless of speed. The sense of slippage seems magnified in an automobile, perhaps largely due to our lack of familiarity with the feeling. But CVTs do work quite well. Instead of your "multi-speed automatics," CVTs are effectively "constant speed automatics" with infinitely variable gear ratios, each the perfect rpm and torque for the specific conditions of operation at that moment.

With modern engineering, metallurgy and manufacturing, durability doesn't seem to be a major concern these days. They just feel weird!

Motoring note: On whether or not to shift to neutral at stops—from Tim McNeely, "One other reason not to shift to neutral at intersections—it is illegal. Some states have it in their driver's manual. I don't like it. I drive a stick and rest my left foot at intersections, especially at long lights."

I'm with you. Granted, holding the clutch down disengages the engine from the driveline like "neutral," but generates wear and tear on the clutch release bearing. For longish stops, I shift a manual transmission into neutral and take my foot off the clutch pedal.

As far as legality, I could only find state statutes that prohibit coasting in neutral downhill, not shifting to neutral while stopped.

Life & Style

Crimean Tatars celebrate Eurovision win, Russians cry foul

KIEV, Ukraine (AP)—Crimean Tatars on Sunday celebrated Ukrainian singer Jamala's win at Eurovision with a song that sheds light on their horrific deportations to Central Asia under Soviet dictator Josef Stalin but also hints at their recent treatment under Russian President Vladimir Putin.

Many Russians, whose Eurovision Song Contest entry won the popular vote but finished third when the national juries' votes were added, said they felt robbed of the win because of political bias.

The Foreign Ministry spokeswoman joked sarcastically that to win next year's contest a song will need to denounce "bloody" Syrian President Bashar Assad, who is supported by Moscow but blamed in the West for Syria's 5-year civil war.

Russia's annexation of Crimea in 2014 was condemned by the United States and European Union, which responded by imposing punishing sanctions. Inside Crimea, the seizure of territory from Ukraine was most strongly opposed by the Tatar minority, who now face persecution on the Moscow-ruled Black Sea peninsula.

"This song is about our tragedy ... and I hope that people heard this," said Emine Ziyatdinova, a 27-year-old Crimean Tatar who was among those celebrating the win at a Tatar restaurant in Kiev.

Jamala's song, "1944," recalls how Crimean Tatars, including her great-grandmother, were deported during World War II.

In the space of three days in May 1944, all 200,000 Tatars, who then made up a third of Crimea's population, were put on trains and shipped off to Central Asia upon Stalin's orders, suspected of collaborating with the Nazis during their long occupation of the peninsula during the war.

Thousands died during the grueling journey or starved to death in the barren steppes upon their arrival. In the decades after the war, the Soviet Union developed Crimea as a naval base and a tourist destination, dominated by ethnic Russians along with Ukrainians.

It was not until the 1980s that the Tatars were allowed to return to their native land. Jamala, the stage name for Susana Jamaladinova, was born in the Central Asian republic of Kyrgyzstan in 1983. She now lives in Kiev.

The lyrics of her song don't touch on Russia's annexation of Crimea, and Jamala insists there's no political subtext. But there's no doubt the lyrics are powerful. She starts the song in English, singing "when strangers are coming, they come to your house, they kill you all and say 'we're not guilty.'"

Russians believe anti-Russian sentiment in Europe swayed the vote. Their entry, Sergey Lazarev, had all the right ingredients for a Eurovision winner: a song with a thumping techno beat, a catchy refrain and a buff man in a tight shirt riding on an iceberg through space.

AP

People celebrate while watching TV as Jamala of Ukraine wins the final of the Eurovision Song Contest in Stockholm, in a restaurant in Kiev, Ukraine, Sunday, May 15, 2016.

Nintendo eyeing filmmaking for growth after Mariners sale

TOKYO (AP)—Japanese video game maker Nintendo Co. is eyeing the movie business for growth.

Company spokesman Makoto Wakae said Monday details are undecided but the work might be a theater release or a DVD.

He says Nintendo wants to make its own film content starring its game characters, such as Super Mario, rather than licensing them as it has done in the past with its Pokemon movies.

Nintendo won't become a full-fledged film studio, but filmmaking is one area it has chosen for future investment of proceeds from selling its stake in the major league Seattle Marines, planned for later this year.

The Japanese daily newspaper Asahi reported Monday that Nintendo's work might be 3-D animation. It said Nintendo is in talks with various film companies on a possible partnership.

IN CELEBRATION OF HIS NEW LIFE

†Joseph Reyes Dela Cruz

Lovingly known as Joseph Cruz

November 11, 1955 - May 12, 2016

In his new life he now joins his:

Son: †Jerome K. Cruz
Father: †Alfonso Torres Dela Cruz (Fungo)
Sisters: †Maria Rosario Reyes Dela Cruz
†Emilia Dela Cruz
Niece: †Maria Reyes Dela Cruz
Paternal Grandparents: †Manuel Concepcion Dela Cruz
†Isabel Torres Dela Cruz
Maternal Grandparents: †Jose Coloma Reyes
†Maria Cabrera Reyes
Mother/Father In Law: †Herminia Kamantigue
†Eleseo Kamantigue
Brother/Sister In law: †Richard Wilson
†Corazon Kamantigue
†Patricio Jarin
†Manolito Kamantigue

Brothers, Sisters and Spouses:
Joaquin R. and Carmen Dela Cruz
Theresa Reyes Cruz
Diana Cruz and Thomas Fejeran
Elizabeth Dela Cruz and Florizel Panlilio
Helen Wilson
Angelica Dela Cruz and Cerefino Balisalisa
Alfonzo Dela Cruz and Vanessa Arriola
Edwin Reyes Dela Cruz (Edwin M. Dela Cruz, Jr.)
Laureen Dela Cruz and Edwin F. Atalig

His memories will forever live in the hears of his:

Wife: **Editha K. Cruz**

Mother: **Maria Reyes Dela Cruz (Familian Julio)**

Children and Grandchildren:
Jerrick K. Cruz / Marlena M. Litulumar
Jerrick G. Cruz, Jr.
Sarah Kyla G. Cruz
Michael L. Camacho
Meagan L. Camacho
Joseph Jr. K. and Francine Cruz
Francisco Joseph C. Cruz (Kiku Boy)
Joseph Jr. K. Cruz, II
Jerome Jose C. Cruz
Julio K. Cruz

Brothers In-Law /Sisters In-Law /Spouses:
Rodolfo and Olivia Kamantigue
Eduardo Kamantigue
Mirriam Kamantigue
Belen Kamantigue
Loida Guevarra
Felixberto and Auie Kamantigue
Arlene Kamantigue

He will also be missed by numerous uncles, aunties, nephews, nieces, cousins and friends.

Daily Mass of Intention for the repose of his soul is being celebrated at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Cathedral every morning at 6:00. Holy Rosary is being prayed nightly at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Cathedral at 7:00 pm.

Funeral Services will be held on Friday, May 20, 2016. His remains will be escorted from Nuestra Senora dela Paz Memorial Chapel to Our lady of Mount Carmel Cathedral at 7:30am. Responso Service and the Holy Rosary will take place upon his arrival.

Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00 am, followed by Interment Services at Chalan Kanoa Cemetery, where he will be laid to peaceful rest.

Please Join us in prayers.
Thank you – Si Yu'us Ma'ase

Editha K. Cruz, Children and Families

'Captain America' tops, 'Money Monster' grabs $15 million

LOS ANGELES (AP)—It's "Captain America's" weekend at the box office once again by a large margin, but even with $72.6 million in earnings, the superhero pic left some room for other newcomers like "Money Monster," ''The Darkness" and "The Lobster" to play, according to comScore estimates Sunday.

"Captain America: Civil War" dropped 59 percent in its second weekend in theaters, in line with the second weekend showings of "Avengers: Age of Ultron" and "Iron Man 3." While it's on the higher end of second weekend falls in the Marvel Cinematic Universe, the Disney and Marvel film is still performing phenomenally well. In just two weeks, it has earned $295.9 million in North America, passing the total domestic grosses of "Captain America: Winter Soldier" film by over $35 million.

Disney's "The Jungle Book" remained in second place with $17.8 million, bringing its domestic total to $311.8 million after five weekends in theaters.

Meanwhile, the R-rated George Clooney and Julia Roberts financial thriller "Money Monster" got off to a healthy third-place start with $15 million, beating expectations in its first weekend in theaters after premiering at the Cannes Film Festival. The film cost only $27 million to produce.

AP

In this image released by Disney, Anthony Mackie, from left, Paul Rudd, Jeremy Renner, Elizabeth Olsen, Chris Evans and Sebastian Stan appear in a scene from "Captain America: Civil War."

"We felt like in the wake of 'Captain America,' we could open to $10 million. To open to $15 million in that time frame is really a great number for us and it bodes well for the playability of the movie," Rory Bruer, Sony's president of worldwide distribution, said. "We're very proud to be part of this genre. The adult thriller is not an easy code to crack."

The Blumhouse release label BH Tilt also opened the micro budget horror film "The Darkness" for the Friday the 13th weekend. The film, which stars Kevin Bacon, brought in $5.2 million from only 1,755 screens to take fourth place.

In limited release, distributor A24 also scored big with "The Lobster," a dark comedy about relationships starring Colin Farrell from director Yorgos Lanthimos. The film scored the best specialty opening of the year with $188,195 from just four screens in New York and Los Angeles before its expands nationwide over the next two weekends.

It's a good strategy to launch movies that don't have massive budgets on the weekend after the summer movie season kick-off, ComScore Senior Media Analyst Paul Dergarabedian said.

"Traditionally this second weekend in May is not an enviable weekend to be releasing on, but it can be a land of opportunity for films that fill a particular niche, or bring in an audience who might not be interested in these big blockbusters," Dergarabedian said. "It's not competing with all the noise."

The summer movie slate only gets more crowded from here on out. Next weekend sees the opening of "The Angry Birds Movie," ''The Nice Guys," and "Neighbors 2: Sorority Rising," before the big Memorial Day release of "Alice Through the Looking Glass" and "X-Men: Apocalypse."

"It was a big weekend, but not the most exciting weekend," Dergarabedian said. "It's mostly business as usual."

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to comScore. Where available, the latest international numbers for Friday through Sunday are also included. Final domestic figures will be released Monday.

1. **"Captain America: Civil War,"** $72.6 million *($84.2 million international).*
2. **"The Jungle Book,"** $17.8 million *($15.2 million international).*
3. **"Money Monster,"** $15 million *($4.7 million international).*
4. **"The Darkness,"** $5.2 million.
5. **"Mother's Day,"** $3.3 million *($1.1 million international).*
6. **"Zootopia,"** $2.8 million *($4.7 million international).*
7. **"The Huntsman: Winter's War,"** $2.6 million *($2 million international).*
8. **"Keanu,"** $1.9 million.
9. **"Barbershop: The Next Cut,"** $1.7 million.
10. **"The Boss,"** $1.2 million.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at international theaters (excluding the U.S. and Canada), according to comScore:

1. **"Captain America: Civil War,"** $84.2 million.
2. **"The Angry Birds Movie,"** $43 million.
3. **"The Wailing,"** $16.8 million.
4. **"The Jungle Book,"** $15.2 million.
5. **"Neighbors 2: Sorority Rising,"** $8.8 million.
6. **"Criminal,"** $7.5 million.
7. **"Finding Mr. Right 2,"** $5.5 million.
8. **"Money Monster" and "Zootopia,"** $4.7 million.
9. **"Que culpa Tiene el Nino,"** $3 million.
10. **"The Huntsman: Winter's War,"** $2 million.

Danson returns to NBC schedule with a Thursday night comedy

NEW YORK (AP)—Ted Danson returns to NBC's Thursday night lineup this fall as part of a conservative scheduling strategy announced Sunday for a network that is holding off much of its new material for other times in the year.

NBC also reached a last-minute deal with producers of the popular comedy "The Carmichael Show" to bring it back next season. The network released its scheduling plans Sunday in advance of Monday's presentation to advertisers in New York, the first of the broadcasters that will do so this week.

Danson, the memorable barkeep in "Cheers" on NBC more than two decades ago, will star in "The Good Place." He plays Kristen Bell's guide to the afterlife in a comedy produced by Michael Schur, whose credits include "Brooklyn Nine-Nine" and "Parks and Recreation."

"It's basically a redemptive story about a young woman who hasn't made the best choices in life finding herself with a chance to course correct," said Jennifer Salke, NBC Entertainment president.

The network is doing some schedule shuffling, moving the sophomore thriller "Blindspot" from Monday to Wednesday, the drama "Chicago Med" from Tuesday to Thursday and "The Blacklist" back an hour to 10 p.m. on Thursday nights.

AP

Ted Danson attends "Fargo" FYC Event held at Paramount Studios on Thursday, April 28, 2016, in Los Angeles.

But of the 12 new series NBC plans to introduce next season, only three are on the fall schedule. Besides "The Good Place," the other two are the dramas "Timeless," about a criminal who steals a secret time machine with the goal of destroying America by changing its past, and "This is Us," a drama-comedy starring Mandy Moore about three strangers whose lives intersect in odd ways.

Among the shows NBC plans to roll out later in the year are "Chicago Justice," the fourth in Dick Wolf's series of Chicago dramas, a spinoff of "The Blacklist," a remake of the movie "Taken," a "Wizard of Oz" reimagining, a comedy based on Marlon Wayans' life and another comedy that will return John Lithgow to NBC's schedule. Also returning later is Steve Harvey's kids' show "Little Big Shots" and "Celebrity Apprentice" with Arnold Schwarzenegger, which won't be on the air until the electoral fate of the show's original host, Donald Trump, is known.

The strategy illustrates the changing nature of TV, when new shows premiere year-round, and NBC touts its stability. But the conservative fall lineup is noticeable in a year where NBC has the powerful platform of the Summer Olympics in August to promote its programming.

"For the first time in a long time we're not running around throwing shows up against the wall and hoping for the best," said Robert Greenblatt, NBC Entertainment chairman.

NBC will take advantage of the Olympics attention by airing an episode of the comedy "Superstore" during the Games, and when they conclude in late August will air a new reality show that follows Henry Winkler, William Shatner, Terry Bradshaw and George Foreman on a trip across Asia.

NBC executives and Twentieth Century Fox Television were haggling over the number of episodes of "The Carmichael Show" that would be ordered for next season. They settled on 13, announcing the show's pickup three hours after the network had released next season's schedule. It's unclear when the show will be back on the air.

NBC said it still is discussing whether one of its high-profile pilots, a remake of the movie "Cruel Intentions" starring Sarah Michelle Gellar, will find a place on its schedule.

Memorial for Prince held at his Jehovah's Witnesses church

MINNETONKA, Minn. (AP)—Security was tight as mourners packed a Jehovah's Witnesses Kingdom Hall on Sunday evening for a memorial for megastar Prince, who worshipped there before he died last month.

Traffic cones lined the streets in front of the church in the Minneapolis suburb of Minnetonka, and media and fans were kept well back from the invitation-only event. City spokeswoman Kari Spreeman said last week that police were preparing for up to 500 people, including up to 50 high-profile guests.

Some people who weren't able to get inside before the church filled up were able to obtain programs, which they shared with reporters outside.

The program said the service was to begin with the song "He Will Call," followed by an opening prayer. It also included an "interview" with Larry Graham, the former Sly and the Family Stone bassist who was Prince's spiritual mentor and introduced him to the Jehovah's Witnesses faith. The program was to conclude with the song "See Yourself When All Is New" and a closing prayer.

On the back was a quote from the Prince song, "Beautiful, Loved and Blessed," from his 2006 album "3121." It read, "If I were to ever write down my life story, I could truly say with all the fame and glory, I was just a piece of clay in need of the potter's hand."

In an interview with The Associated Press two weeks ago, Graham said it was important to Prince to give his fans joy with his music. But the most important thing to Prince was being able to share scripture, he said.

"His joy—his biggest joy—was sharing the hope of everlasting life," Graham said.

Prince was known at the Kingdom Hall as "Brother Nelson." He was found dead at age 57 in his Paisley Park recording complex in Chanhassen on April 21. Authorities are still investigating.

The artist's two ex-wives held a star-studded memorial in Los Angeles on Wednesday night.

Meghan Trainor laughs off 'Tonight Show' fall

NEW YORK (AP)—Meghan Trainor is taking things in stride after losing her balance and falling at the end of a performance on Thursday night's "Tonight Show."

As she turned around to face the audience following her performance of her new single, "Me Too," Trainor appeared to roll her right ankle. She reached out to grab the microphone stand but couldn't stop from falling and ended up flat on her back.

Trainor appeared to be OK and host Jimmy Fallon tried to make the best of it, calling it "one of those things" before lying next to the singer on the stage.

Trainor is laughing off the mishap on Friday. She has sent several videos of the fall on Twitter and writes that she's "all good" and has "barely a scratch."

AP

Meghan Trainor arrives at Wango Tango at StubHub Center on Saturday, May 14, 2016, in Carson, Calif.

Actress Gong Li irked by lack of Chinese films at Cannes

CANNES, France (AP)—Actress Gong Li made a head-turning return to the red carpet at the Cannes Film Festival, but the "Memoir of a Geisha" star said she's disappointed at the absence of Chinese films at the festival this year.

Not a single Chinese film is in competition, out of competition, or selected for any other category. Gong said she believes that's a sign of an industry that cares too deeply about the dollar sign.

"Of course this is about money," she said Wednesday. "We need to tell everyone that a movie is not merely for entertainment. It might leave you with something much deeper for your soul. It's not just for laughs, not just for jokes. It's more than that. There's not a lot of people talking about that in China right now."

AP

Actress Gong Li arrives on the red carpet for the screening of the film Cafe Society and the Opening Ceremony at the 69th international film festival, Cannes, southern France, Wednesday, May 11, 2016.

The 50-year-old actress, who has previously starred in films in competition at Cannes and who has served as a jury member, this year is a guest of the french cosmetics brand L'Oreal, for which she's an ambassador.

With close to three decades in the business, Gong has worked extensively with Chinese director Zhang Yimou on films like "Ju Dou," ''Rise the Red Lantern" and "To Live." She also worked in Hollywood in the early 2000s, appearing in "Memoir of a Geisha" and "Miami Vice."

When asked if a lack of roles for Asian actors has kept her from a larger Hollywood career, Gong said that the issue was less about ethnicity than gender.

"There are a lot of male roles, but not a lot of female roles. There are a lot of great actresses in the U.S. and there aren't enough roles for them. It's even hard for them to get a good female role, never mind a Chinese actress. How do you integrate that into the script? That's very hard. How do you mix a Chinese actor with a group of foreigners? It's not easy."

Chili Peppers nix concert after singer hospitalized with flu

IRVINE, Calif. (AP)—The Red Hot Chili Peppers canceled an appearance at a California radio station's annual concert after lead singer Anthony Kiedis was hospitalized with intestinal flu, a band spokesman said Sunday.

Kiedis, 53, was expected to make a full recovery, Brian Bumbery told The Associated Press.

Bassist Flea told the crowd Saturday night in Orange County that the Chili Peppers would be unable to perform. Flea said Kiedis was on his way to a hospital for medical reasons, but he did not elaborate.

The band was scheduled to headline KROQ-FM's Weenie Roast concert. Also on the bill at Irvine Meadows Amphitheatre were Weezer and Empire of the Sun.

Peppers drummer Chad Smith tweeted: "No one's more disappointed than us that we couldn't perform tonight. Sending love and a speedy recovery to my brother Anthony."

Kiedis was taken to the hospital after experiencing "complications from the intestinal flu," Bumbery said. As a result, the Chili Peppers will postpone a concert for iHeart Radio scheduled for Tuesday in Burbank, California, he said.

"They would like to extend their gratitude to the fans for the outpouring of well wishes," he said.

The band's latest album, "The Getaway," is set for release on June 16. They are set to perform May 23 at the Rock on the Range festival in Ohio and May 29 at the BottleRock festival in Northern California.

Susan Sarandon slams Woody Allen at Cannes Film Festival

CANNES, France (AP)—Susan Sarandon has slammed Woody Allen at the Cannes Film Festival where allegations of sexual assault have been renewed against the director.

Speaking at a "Woman in Motion" talk on Sunday, Sarandon said of Allen: "I think he sexually assaulted a child and I don't think that's right." Sarandon, who was speaking alongside Geena Davis, declined to comment further on the subject.

Allen's "Cafe Society" opened the festival on Wednesday. A column posted the same day by his son, Ronan Farrow, called for media, moviegoers and film festivals to reconsider their embrace of the director.

Allen's daughter, Dylan, has said he molested her when she was 7. Allen has denied it.

AP

Actresses Susan Sarandon, left, and Geena Davis pose for photographers during a photo call for the Women In Motion Talks at the 69th international film festival, Cannes, southern France, Sunday, May 15, 2016.

Wife eager to get pregnant must face stalling husband

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I have been together for eight years, but married only a few months. It took him a long time to finally marry me, and it ended up that I was the one to propose.

I am 30 and he's 39. I know he loves me. I have always expressed that I want children and he did, too. I have been off birth control and keeping track of my cycle, but now he doesn't want to make love. When I try to get him in the mood, he always finds an excuse. I told him he has had plenty of time to let me know if he doesn't want children.

I love him more than anything, but I do not want to miss out on being a parent. This is a deal-breaker. I am getting older and I don't know what to do.

FUTURE MOMMY IN WISCONSIN

DEAR FUTURE MOMMY: Settle this now by asking your husband directly why he is either unwilling or unable to perform in the bedroom. You are entitled to an explanation, because he may be having second thoughts not only about starting a family, but also the marriage. If he has changed his mind about having children, talk to a lawyer because you may be able to get an annulment.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I have a friend who is in the Navy. We have been friends for a year and a half, but have never met in person. He's 19 and I'm 17. We Skype at least once a week.

He has fallen for me and doesn't know what to do because he's in an arranged marriage he doesn't want to be in. He doesn't know the girl, doesn't know what she looks like or even know her name. All he knows is she lives in Russia.

I have fallen for him, too. He is only going through with the marriage because his grandparents did it. I thought I would ask for some advice on what I should do.

MISS CONFUSED

DEAR MISS CONFUSED: Are you sure this person is who he has represented himself to be? "Because his grandparents did it" is not a good reason to go through with a marriage to a stranger. If his story is true, it appears this young man's family has his future mapped out for him, and he isn't independent enough to resist.

If you continue this Skype romance, I see nothing but sadness ahead for you. You would be happier if you found someone closer to home, someone whom you can meet in person.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I don't know what's wrong with me. I say yes to everything! I say yes to people I don't even want to. I agree to plans that override those I have already made. Then I have to lie my way out of events and other stuff I don't want to do, or never had any intention of ever doing. I need help. It's ruining my life. Please, please help.

CAN'T SAY NO

DEAR ABBY

By Abigail Van Buren
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

DEAR CAN'T SAY NO: What's wrong is that you are trying to be a people-pleaser. The problem with making promises you can't keep is that eventually you will become labeled as a flake when you don't follow through.

If you're afraid you won't be liked if you take the risk of just saying no, you are mistaken. People will respect you for standing up for yourself and drawing the line, as long as it's done politely. An example would be, "I'd love to, but I already have plans."

■■■

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

WHAT'S THE NAME OF THE COMPANY PUBLISHING YOUR BOOK?
SGIASU. I BELIEVE THE'S IS SILENT.
UM... I LOOKED ONLINE TODAY. I CAN'T FIND ANY MENTION OF THEM.
THEY'RE PROBABLY JUST TOO BIG FOR THE INTERNET.
THAT'S NOT A THING, HONEY.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Gulf War missile
5 "Nova" airer
8 Vague
12 Walking stick
13 Flight stat
14 Curved molding
15 "Please go ahead"
17 "That — close one!"
18 Prefix with natal
19 Ump's call
20 Vader's title
21 Little rascal
22 Wilder's "— Town"
23 Beta follower
26 Artist Georgia
30 Take — (react to applause)
31 Reply (Abbr.)
32 Part of NYC
33 Tenor Pavarotti
35 Stray calf
36 Potent stick
37 Vichy water
38 Effusive
41 Bird (Pref.)
42 Allen or Daly
45 Follow orders
46 "Gesundheit!"
48 Jared of "Panic Room"
49 Corn spike
50 Scraps
51 Lady of the haus
52 Parched
53 Fluffy scarves

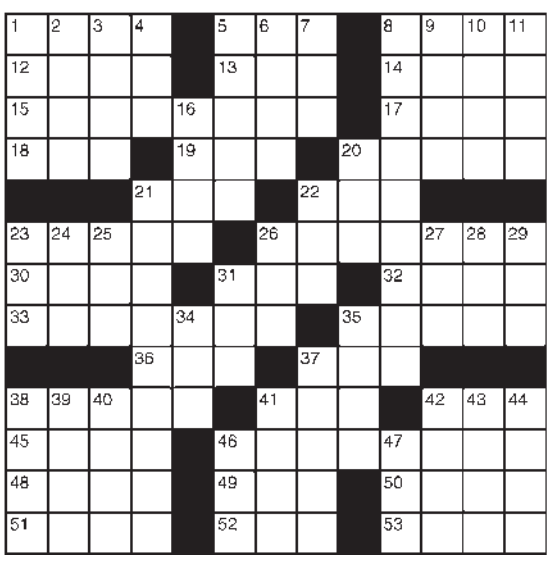
DOWN

1 Read quickly
2 Sidewalk eatery
3 Golden rule word
4 Ruby or Sandra
5 Loan shark's demand
6 Inky stain
7 R-V link
8 Common greeting
9 Culture medium
10 Pizzazz
11 "Amen!"
16 "Arrivederci —"
20 Expected
21 "Agreed!"
22 Approves
23 Cowboy's sweetie
24 — Dhabi
25 Soft shoe, for short
26 Yoko of music
27 Boating hazard
28 Calendar abbr.
29 Supplement, with "out"
31 Busy insect
34 Whatever
35 Lectern locale
37 Without exception
38 Michelle Wie's game
39 Modern taxi rival
40 — good example
41 Winged
42 Beginner
43 Tiny bit
44 Tousle
46 Nap site
47 Cry

Solution time: 22 mins.

G	U	N			H	U	M		B	A	C	H
A	R	I	A		F	P	A		R	F	P	O
R	A	N	G		M	O	C		I	R	A	N
P	L	A	N	B		N	A	D	A			
			E	B	B		W	I	N	D	U	P
O	P	O	S	S	U	M		A	L	A	G	E
B	O	N	D		N	A	Y		E	H	L	E
I	S	Y	E	T		P	U	M	P	K	I	N
T	E	X	M	E	X		M	I	A			
			D	E	A		G	L	O	R	Y	
O	R	A	L		N	B	A		M	A	Y	A
I	D	O	L		O	E	R		A	H	E	M
I	A	K	E		N	F	T		U	S	S	

Yesterday's answer 5-17



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Leven Rambin, 26; Derek Hough, 31; Trent Reznor, 51; Bill Paxton, 61.

Happy Birthday: Patience and diplomacy will be required if you intend to keep the peace when dealing with personal or business partnerships. An open and honest approach will help you maintain your integrity and lessen the chance of being surprised by opposition. Observation and continually adding to your knowledge and experience will bring good results. Your numbers are 5, 17, 22, 26, 31, 36, 48.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Something from your past will have an impact on a decision you need to make. Don't deny yourself the chance to achieve the satisfaction and happiness you deserve. Put your own needs first and do what's best for you. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Listen to what's being said and make suggestions. You will impress your colleagues with your insight and comprehension. Working alongside someone who is eager to initiate change will lead to good fortune. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Try to figure out who is on your side and who isn't. Expect someone to lead you astray or tempt you to get involved in something dubious. Make personal and educational improvements that will help you avoid being put in a compromising position. ✪✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): As long as you don't let your emotions take over, you will be able to accomplish what you set out to do. Attend events that will put you in contact with people who can help make your life better. ✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Spice up your life by getting involved in new interests or activities. Plan your next vacation or consider if you should make a change of residence or profession. Don't procrastinate when it's up to you to pursue your options. ✪✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Add to your skills or maneuver your way into a better-paying position. Network, and doors will open. Think big and stop waiting for someone else to make the first move. It's up to you to make your life better. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Emotions will lead to unwanted changes if you let someone you are close to control your life. Question what it is you want and make your voice heard. You can't always be the one to compromise. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Let your creative imagination take over and work on a project that brings you joy. Turning something you love into a prosperous venture will improve your life and lead to partnerships with like-minded people. Romance is in the stars. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Keep a close watch on the people around you. Someone you trusted will disappoint you. Avoid traveling to places that could put you in a perilous situation. Focus on your home, family and professional career. ✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Make home improvements or bring about personal changes that will encourage better relationships with the people you love and respect. Physical activities will prompt you to help others. Get in touch with old friends. ✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): An offer will be too good to turn down. Negotiate on your own behalf and you will get what you want. Good fortune is heading your way, and your standard of living will improve if you are disciplined and proactive. ✪✪✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Recognize who is out to get you and who is willing to help. Someone from your past will have an impact on your life. Keep an open mind and you will get what you want. Love is highlighted and romance is encouraged. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are talented, unique and popular. You are adaptable and adventurous.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

4			5				9	
	6					4		5
	2		6	8				
1		5		9				
6								1
				3		2		6
				4	7		3	
9		7					6	
	8				5			4

Difficulty Level ★★ 5/17

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

6	3	9	5	1	8	2	4	7
7	8	5	9	2	4	1	3	6
4	2	1	6	3	7	9	5	8
3	1	4	2	8	6	7	9	5
8	5	6	4	7	9	3	1	2
9	7	2	3	5	1	8	6	4
2	9	8	1	4	5	6	7	3
5	6	3	7	9	2	4	8	1
1	4	7	8	6	3	5	2	9

Difficulty Level ★

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

IMPORTANT TUNNELS Solution: 7 letters

D	R	E	N	O	S	N	E	H	P	E	T	S	Y	N
N	N	I	R	E	S	O	N	I	L	A	P	U	E	O
U	A	A	A	A	S	M	A	O	L	I	S	L	L	L
S	H	I	L	L	W	A	R	D	R	G	I	T	R	P
K	S	L	V	L	C	A	B	A	A	O	E	A	E	M
I	O	A	A	O	O	T	L	V	N	E	S	F	T	I
E	U	E	L	V	I	H	S	E	R	C	L	F	T	S
R	H	R	Z	G	A	G	T	T	D	Ⓟ	I	O	U	M
E	G	D	I	L	N	T	S	U	M	E	Ⓐ	M	B	A
M	N	A	O	I	A	K	U	E	R	I	R	Ⓣ	H	R
L	E	L	N	H	R	L	R	B	V	N	H	B	Ⓗ	T
R	F	N	G	A	I	S	I	U	E	O	S	C	Y	R
I	O	R	L	M	E	N	N	N	E	S	R	L	U	O
H	O	C	E	Y	N	R	E	V	E	S	S	O	R	C
T	H	A	M	E	S	G	E	R	R	A	R	D	S	K

©2016 Universal Uclick www.wonderword.com Download the Wonderword Game App! 5/17

Base, Butterley, Clark, Cross, Cu Chi, Delaware, Derby, Eiksund, Eupalinos, Fenghuoshan, Gerrards, Giovi, Glass, Holland, Honningsvag, Laerdal, La Linea, Lava Tubes, Lime, Lion, Mersey, Moffat, Path, Rails, Rock, Rove, Severn, Siloam, Simplon, Smart, Spiral, St. Clair, Stephenson, Street, Thames, Thirlmere, Torghatten, Turns, Ward, Zion

Yesterday's Answer: Marshmallows

To purchase **THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volume 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45 or 46**, order online at www.WonderWordBooks.com. (Contains 40 puzzles.)

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EMPLOYMENT

1 Carpenter - $6.55/hr. 4 years experience. Hong Electronics Ent. Inc. Email: hongeei@pticom.com.

Looking for Network Marketers. Earn additional income. Email resume to opportunity@valuepacific.net

MARIANAS OUTSOURCE LLC. is looking for 1 Full time Computer Specialist, Part Timer - 1 Grounds Keeper, 1 Commercial Cleaner, General Maintenance - $6.05/hr. Interested US qualified applicants send resume & police clearance at marianasoutsource@gmail.com.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
BL MACHINE SHOP
(3) Machinist
Must have 3 years experience. Have knowledge in fabrication and modifying parts.
Please send your resume at blmachineshop@yahoo.com.
Contact No. 235-2567

www.saipantribune.com

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
AQUAVILLE INC.
(1) Manager
Must have 3 years experience in Managing Marine Sports Operation. Can speak Korean, English and Chinese. Please send your resume at Santos_adonis@yahoo.com
Contact No.: 323-2916

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
Philpan International Inc. need
(1) Sales Representative
Must have 3 years experience
Knowledgeable in Invoicing
Contact No. 783-0367

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
Auto Marine Inc.
(1) Customer Representative
Must have 3 years experience in dealing with Customers
Knowledgeable in Boat Scheduling and Dispatching.
Send your resume at santos_adonis@yahoo.com
Contact No. 323-2916

CLICK IT OR TICKET
DAY & NIGHT

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
MACS MARINE
(1) Maintenance Repairer
Must have 3 years experience.
Knowledgeable in Fiber Glassing.
Please send your resume at Santos_adonis@yahoo.com.
Contact No.: 322-6227

BROADCAST LICENSE ASSIGNMENT

On April 29, 2016 an application was filed with the FCC to assign the license of stations KCNM (AM) Saipan and KZMI (FM), 103.9 MHz, Garapan-Saipan from Choice Broadcasting Company, LLC to Holonet Corporation.

The managers and members of the assignor are Richard C. Yu, Jeselyn T. Yu and Robert F. Kellye, Jr.

The officers, directors and owners of the assignee are Cecilia H. Lifoifoi, Hoth Holdings and Sophia Alvarez.

A copy of the application, amendments and related materials are on file for public inspection at KZMI-FM and KCNM, Sablan Bldg., San Jose Saipan.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
AUTO MARINE
(1) Commercial Diver
Must have 3 years experience in Scuba Diving. Can speak English, Japanese and Chinese. Please send your resume at Santos_adonis@yahoo.com.
Contact No.: 323-2916

SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Teacher Aide for K4 & K5

Saipan International School is hiring a full-time teacher aide for our K4 & K5 program. Experience working with young children is required. A BA in Early Childhood or Elementary Education is preferred.

Please send your resume to the Headmaster, Mr. Bray, at t.bray@sissaipan.net or drop it off at the office.

SIS does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age.

FIESTA Resort & SPA SAIPAN
A TanHoldings Company

is inviting qualified U.S. Citizens to apply for the following vacant position

Tailor (1)
- Measures, makes or alters uniforms for new employees. Repairs and maintain uniforms for all hotel employees. Organize and take inventory for all fabric materials, perform other duties as may be assigned by immediate superior.
- Must have 2 years tailoring experience. Is able to work well under pressure in a fast pace environment. Must be able to work flexible schedule including holidays.

Interested applicants may obtain and submit application form from our security office located at the South Wing. To be considered, all applications must be submitted no later than May 26, 2016. Background check and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.

Help Wanted
Mariana Entertainment LLC is recruiting immediately for 1 (one)

Assistant Club Manager

Job Duties to include (but not limited to):
Assist Club Manager with the overall operation of staffing; cash handling and counting; vendor relations; supply ordering and accountability; profitability and operational efficiencies; general operational procedures and regulatory compliance.
Qualifications: 3 years previous management experience in gaming and/or cash handling operation required. Customer service experience preferred. Must be able to obtain CNMI gaming license.
One, full-time position available.

Please email resume to:
Club88mholl@gmail.com

POI Aviation
invites qualified US workers to apply for the following positions:

Avionics Technician (2)
Requires: High School graduate/GED or Aircraft Maintenance Engineering and/or Aeronautical Engineering program. FCC license or NCATT certification or an equivalent foreign license. Four (4) years experience in an avionics/electrical career field; or two (2) years of accredited schooling in aviation electronics and two (2) years related experience. Performs various troubleshooting and evaluation of aircraft avionics systems; removal and installation of panels and components; and repair work. Must be skilled in the use of specialized aircraft testing equipment.

Aircraft Maintenance Technician (5)
Requires: Graduate of Aircraft Maintenance Engineering and/or Aeronautical Engineering program with 2 years experience in airframe and power plant maintenance on both narrow and wide-body aircraft. Performs various repairs on aircraft airframe and power plants and other required services to ensure airworthiness. Must be skilled in use of specialized aircraft testing equipment and hold current U.S. FAA A&P License or an equivalent foreign license.

Interested applicants may send their applications to recruitment@poiaviation.com. To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than May 23, 2016. Applications for employment are available at the Human Resources Department located at the POI Aviation Building on International Terminal LP, Saipan International Airport. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

POI Aviation is an Equal Opportunity Employer
Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.

Marianas Medical Center
is seeking for U.S. qualified workers for the following position:

1 – Radiology Technician
College degree in Radiology from a school approved by the Commonwealth Board of Nurse Examiners (CBNE), with two (2) years of relevant work experience as a Radiology Technician. Must have the ability to take, review, evaluate and operate X-Ray, Ultrasound, Mammogram and Echocardiogram equipment. Must be licensed under Health Care Professions Licensing Board as a Radiology Technician in the CNMI. Must have the ability to work proficiently in a fast paced clinical environment.

2 – Registered Nurse (RN)
College graduate degree in Nursing from a school approved by the Commonwealth Board of Nurse Examiners (CBNE), with two (2) years of work experience as a nurse or working in a similar capacity in a health care or medical setting. Must pass US NCLEX-RN and is licensed as an RN by CBNE. Must have the ability to work proficiently in a fast paced clinical environment. Ability to speak and translate in the Chinese language is preferred.

1 – Electrician Maintenance
High school diploma or GED, plus five (5) years of relevant work experience.

1 – Office Manager
College graduate with a minimum of five (5) years related work experience, plus two (2) years supervisory/management experience in a clinic or hospital setting. Must be highly knowledgeable in CPT/ICD-9/ICD-10/HCPCS medical coding and medical billing. Working knowledge of the AdvancedMD medical software, plus proficiency using Microsoft Office applications. Must have excellent verbal and written communication skills, analytical and problem solving abilities, and the ability to multi-task in a fast paced environment.

All positions close 5:00pm on Thursday, May 19, 2016.
Applications are available at the Marianas Medical Center. Applications should include a resume and evidence of education degree(s) and professional licenses claimed. It should also include a valid Police Clearance of no more than 6 months old. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Testing may be required for some positions. Marianas Medical Center is an equal opportunity employer.

PLACE YOUR ADVERT HERE!
For opportunities contact us at
235-6397

WHATZIT Solution: Quantum leap

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as $30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$30
• 5-Liner	$24	$45

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

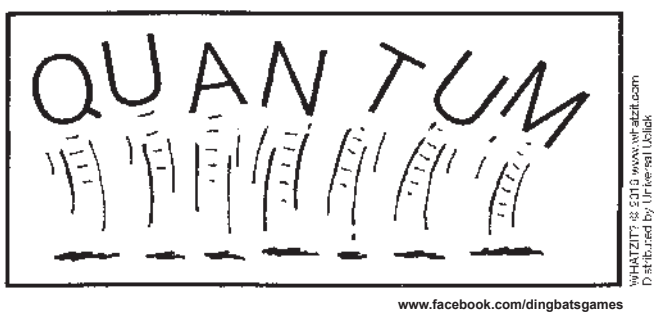
Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT?™

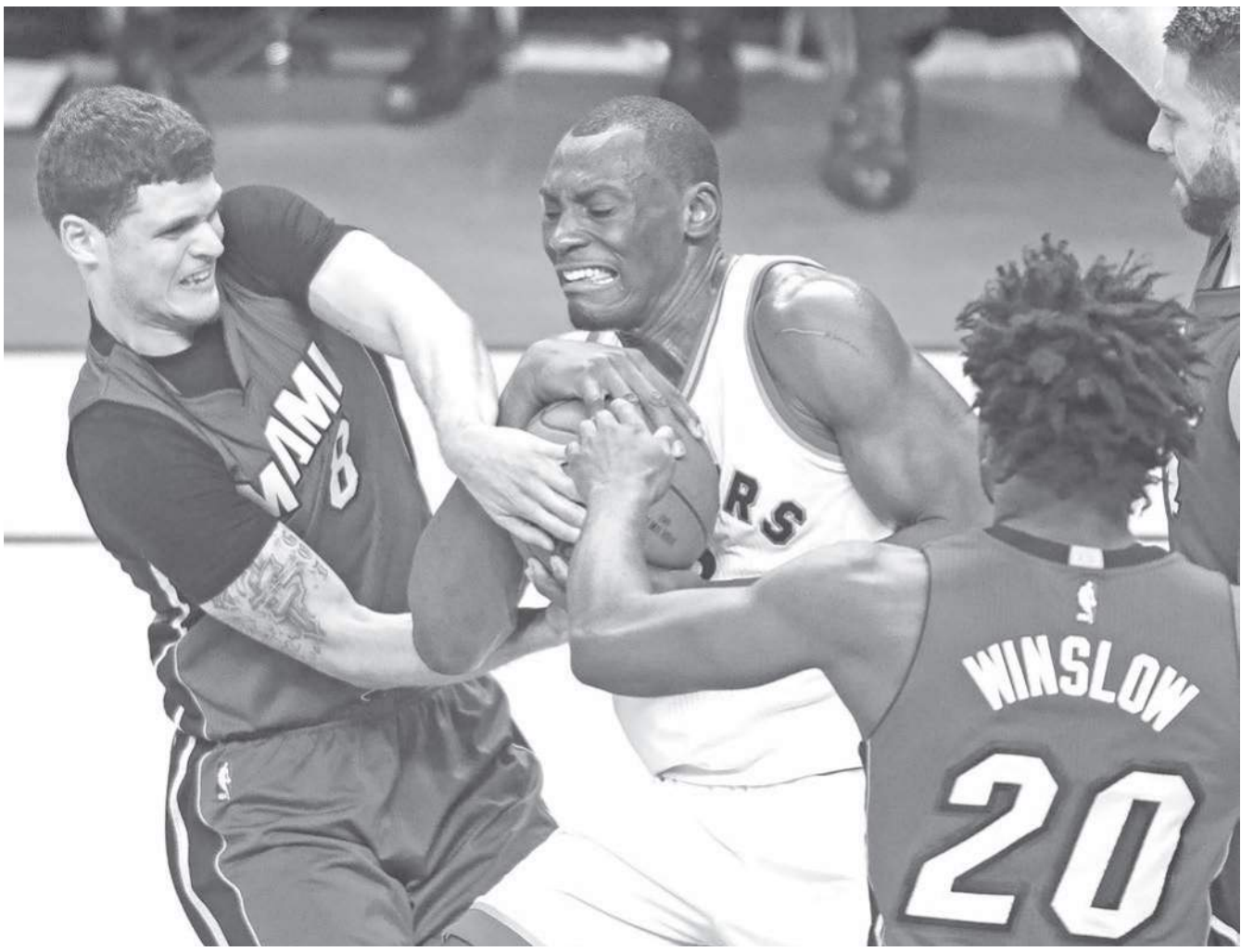
Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.



www.facebook.com/dingbatsgames

Find today's solution in classified section

No Wade-James face-off as Raptors take Game 7



AP

Toronto Raptors center Bismack Biyombo, center, battles for the ball against Miami Heat guard Tyler Johnson, left, and forward Justise Winslow (20) during the second half of Game 7 of the NBA basketball Eastern Conference semifinals in Toronto, Sunday, May 15, 2016.

TORONTO—Toronto fans chanted `We Want Cleveland!' in the final seconds. They got it.

Kyle Lowry scored 35 points, DeMar DeRozan had 28 and the Raptors beat the Miami Heat 116-89 in Game 7 on Sunday to advance to the conference finals for the first time in franchise history.

Bismack Biyombo added 17 points and 16 rebounds for the Raptors. They'll open the Eastern Conference finals in Cleveland against LeBron James and the Cavaliers on Tuesday night.

"It's great to hear the home crowd," DeRozan said. "This organization deserves it, this country deserves it, to see them get to the next step, somewhere they haven't been. But we're not done yet."

After struggling for much of the playoffs, Lowry and DeRozan were in top form for Game 7. Lowry made 11 of 20 shots, including five of seven from 3-point range, and DeRozan connected on 12 of 29 attempts. Lowry had nine assists and seven rebounds, DeRozan had eight rebounds.

"We never doubted Kyle and DeMar," Raptors coach Dwane Casey said. "They're our All Stars and they both played like it tonight. They both stepped up and carried us."

DeMarre Carroll scored 14 points, and Patrick Patterson had 11 to help the Raptors become the 15th team in NBA history to win two Game 7s in one postseason. Toronto beat Indiana in the first round.

Now the Raptors get ready for the Cavaliers, who swept Detroit in the first round and have been resting since May 8, when they capped a second-round sweep of Atlanta.

"I think this group is hungry," Casey said about his team. "Never say never."

Casey declined to say whether center Jonas Valanciunas, who sprained his right ankle in Game 3 against the Heat, would be available against Cleveland.

"He's still limping around but he's doing therapy 24-7 so we'll see," Casey said.

Scouting booklets for the Cleveland series were sitting on the chair of each Raptors player inside their locker room less than an hour the game.

"We know we've got a tough task ahead," Lowry said. "It's always a challenge going against those guys."

Dwyane Wade and Goran Dragic each scored 16 points for the Heat. Miami was denied the opportunity to renew acquaintances with former teammate James in the conference finals.

"We fought tooth and nail to try to get to that goal of getting to the Eastern Conference Finals," Wade said. "We came up obviously one game short of that. For myself and a lot of guys on this team, there's not always mother season, another season, so you want to take advantage of the opportunities."

Miami hadn't lost a Game 7 since the first round at Atlanta in 2009. They won their past four Game 7s, all at home. Miami was seeking to join the Los Angeles Lakers and Boston Celtics as the only teams to win five straight Game 7s.

Instead, the Heat were left to wonder what might have been after losing Chris Bosh at the All-Star break for the second straight year, then losing center Hassan Whiteside to a sprained right knee in Game 3 against Toronto.

"Hopefully, going forward this organization is not snakebitten like we've been the last two years, losing key players," Wade said.

Joe Johnson and Justise Winslow scored 13 points, and Luol Deng had 12 for the Heat. After rallying to beat Charlotte in the first round, Miami fell short in its bid to become the first team to erase 3-2 deficits in consecutive series.

The Raptors improved to 3-6 when they had a chance to eliminate their opponent, and won for the first time in 14 tries in a playoff game that started before 4 p.m.

Leading 86-78 to begin the fourth, Toronto stretched its lead to 16 on a dunk by Biyombo and back-to-back 3-pointers by Carroll and Terrence Ross, making it 96-80 at 9:41.

Patterson made a layup and, following Lowry's steal on Dragic, added a pair of free throws that gave the Raptors a 102-82 lead at 7:30, all but sealing Miami's fate.

Warriors expect tough task from Thunder

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—Stephen Curry's near half-court shot to win it in overtime at Oklahoma City in late February became one of the defining moments in his record-shattering MVP season.

Now, with four more victories against Kevin Durant and the Thunder in the Western Conference finals, Curry and Co. will move one step closer to the Warriors' ultimate goal: A repeat championship.

"It was a deep shot, and it was a huge shot - it was something I've never seen," Durant recalled. "But it wasn't like it was a shot that went across the whole world."

No arguing Curry's fame has gone global. He is fresh off becoming the NBA's first unanimous MVP, but there's more work to do.

Golden State was outrebounded 62-32 in that 121-118 win on Feb. 27, and the Warriors can't even believe they pulled off that one.

"I have no clue," swingman Draymond Green said. "That's one of the craziest things I've ever seen. That's not supposed to happen."

Golden State won all three regular-season meetings with the Thunder on the way to its record 73-win season, but slowing down Russell Westbrook and Durant will be a chore after the Thunder beat San Antonio 4-2 in the Western Conference semifinals.

"They're an explosive team. They're clicking right now and found a good recipe to beat a tough Spurs team," said Curry, who made a record 402 3-pointers to top his previous top league mark of 286 from last season. "That says a lot about how they're playing right now."

The Warriors are optimistic Curry's sprained right knee will stay healthy for the entire round when he best-of-seven series begins Monday night at Oracle Arena.

After being sidelined in the first round with an ankle injury and then missing the first three games against the Trail Blazers, Curry came off the bench and overcame a slow start to score 40 points in a 132-125 Game 4 overtime win at Portland on Monday night, including an NBA-record 17 in overtime. He then started and scored 29 points Wednesday night in the clincher at home.

"The last three years against them it's been pretty entertaining games, most of the time going down to the wire, so you can only imagine what it will be like in the playoffs," Curry said. "Every possession's going to be key."

Back to business for LeBron and Cavs

INDEPENDENCE, Ohio (AP)—As the score became more and more lopsided in Toronto, LeBron James started to change.

And as the final seconds ticked toward all zeroes on the clock, James took one last look at the scoreboard at the bottom of the TV screen and decided it was time to get serious again.

"Uh, 114-86," James said, relaying the Raptors' huge lead over the Miami Heat in the waning moments of their Game 7. "That's when I flipped the switch."

James and the Cavaliers are back in playoff mode. Bring on Toronto.

After a week of waiting for an opponent, the Cavs finally learned they'll face the Raptors, who clobbered Miami 116-89 on Sunday to earn their first trip to the Eastern Conference finals.

James met with media members shortly after the Toronto-Cleveland series became official. The four-time MVP wasn't as talkative as earlier in the work and chose his words carefully as he discussed the Raptors, who won two of three against the Cavs during the regular season.

"We're a totally different team than the regular season," James warned.

The Cavs haven't played since wrapping up a four-game sweep -- their second of the postseason— over Atlanta on May 8. When they take the floor Tuesday, it will have been nine days between games—a break Cleveland used for rest and recovery. James said the time off was huge for him and his teammates.

"I've always said anytime you get an opportunity to get some rest throughout the course of our season, it's always beneficial for anybody," he said. "Doesn't matter if you're a 31-year-old guy who's played a lot of basketball or you're a 19-year-old kid who just came into the league. It doesn't matter -- you get a couple days in the postseason, there's a benefit."

Before practice, the Cavs broke down some game tape of the Raptors, who are enjoying the greatest season in their franchise's history and don't want it to end anytime soon.

Toronto has been nipping at Cleveland's heels all season and the East finals will match up the conference's top two teams.

Cavs coach Tyronn Lue said the clubs have been on a collision course.

"They played at a high level all season, winning 56 games this year and they're a confident group," he said. "They feel great, getting out of the first round this year, getting the monkey off their back so they're up for the challenge—and so are we."

The Cavs will focus on slowing down the Raptors' two-headed guard tandem. Kyle Lowry and DeMar DeRozan combined for 63 points in the series-clinching win over the Heat and present a matchup problem for any team because they can drive to the basket or pull up and knock down jumpers. Lowry burned Cleveland by scoring a career-high 43 points in a win on Feb. 26.

Toronto's win denied James a chance to go against the Heat, his former team, and good friend Dwyane Wade. James recently said he had entertained the possibility of a Cavs-Heat matchup, which would have provided a sexier national story line and tested his mental toughness like no other series.

Day dominates best field in golf to win TPC

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, Fla. (AP)—Jason Day had a crystal trophy at his side and a pacifier in his pocket.

Only after he completed a wire-to-wire victory in The Players Championship did Day reveal that his 3-year-old son, Dash, had kept him up the night before with a stomach ailment. Exactly how the pacifier wound up in his pocket remained a mystery, though it was an illustration of his week at the TPC Sawgrass.

Nothing unsettled him. Nothing was going to stop him.

"I've got no stress in my life," Day said after his four-shot victory, his seventh in the last 10 months. "Other than Dash waking up last night ... Dash woke up and he threw up everywhere. How funny is that? I've got this pacifier here because it's in my pocket for some reason. But like that's one thing that I'm sitting here (because) I was enjoying myself. I prepped well, had great work. I felt good about my swing.

"Everything was coming along nicely."

For the rest of the PGA Tour, it must be frightening.

Dating to the Canadian Open last summer, Day's seven victories include a major, The Players, a World Golf Championship and two FedEx Cup playoff events. He already had won twice this year.

AP

Jason Day of Australia tips his hat as he walks off the 18th green with his family after winning The Players Championship golf tournament Sunday, May 15, 2016, in Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla. Day is holding his son Dash as his wife Ellie holds Lucy.

And yet when he arrived at the TPC Sawgrass, all he heard was that he has not played this golf course very well. His most recent round was an 81 last year to miss the cut.

That now seems like a long time ago.

Day started this tournament by tying the course record with a 9-under 63 and breaking the 36-hole tournament record at 15-under par. He survived the scariest day at Sawgrass when the greens were as slick as ice. He overcame some errant shots and a few doubts on the front nine Sunday. And then he finished with yet another flawless performance on the back nine, where he played bogey-free all four rounds.

One year after Rickie Fowler turned in the most dynamic finish in Players Championship history, Day made Sunday look inevitable.

"I'm very motivated to win as much as I can right now," he said.

Day never let anyone closer than two shots the entire final round, though there were a few anxious moments, especially when he muffed three chips from just 40 feet right of the green on the par-5 ninth. A potential birdie turned into an unsettling bogey, and he had to make a 6-foot putt to avoid the score being worse.

And then, it was over.

Day rolled in a 15-foot birdie putt on No. 10, another 15-foot birdie putt on No. 12, and the 28-year-old Australian never came close to bogey the rest of the way. He closed with a 1-under 71 to become the first wire-to-wire winner at The Players since Hal Sutton in 2000.

That was the year Sutton finished off Tiger Woods by saying, "Be the right club today," with a 6-iron into the 18th to sew up the victory. Day needed nothing that dramatic. Kevin Chappell was 5 under over his last 10 holes to finish second, though he never was a serious threat to win. No one was.

"It's no coincidence he's No. 1 in the world," Justin Thomas said after closing with a Sunday-best 65 to tie for third. "He drives it extremely far, extremely straight. He hits it to the moon, so he can access pins that most people can't. His short game is ridiculous. I think I've pretty much covered it all there when it comes to the golf."

Day finished at 15-under 273 for his 10th career victory on the PGA Tour. Only Rory McIlroy with 11 has more victories among players still in their 20s.

Day is the third No. 1 player to win The Players Championship, joining Greg Norman (1994) and Tiger Woods (2001 and 2013).

Perhaps even more telling about the state of his game is that he joined Woods, Tom Watson and Johnny Miller as the only players since 1970 to go wire-to-wire twice in the same season. Day led from start to finish at the Arnold Palmer Invitational at Bay Hill.

Day also won the Dell Match Play, winning six of his seven matches before they reached the 18th green.

Adam Scott referred to this run as "Tigeresque."

"That's one of the hardest things to do when you are hot like that, to keep pushing," Scott said. "But he has a very strong desire to achieve so much, and I think probably his goals are changing throughout this period, and he's expecting more and more of himself. He's got that ability to push himself and accomplish."

Rangers survive brawl-marred match against Jays

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP)—Rougned Odor's powerful punch to Jose Bautista's jaw will be remembered for a long time.

Perhaps it's a good thing the Rangers and Blue Jays have played for the final time this regular season. As for the playoffs, well, that would be interesting.

A feud simmering since Bautista's bat flip in last year's AL Division Series boiled over into a wild brawl that ultimately triggered six of the eight ejections in the Rangers' 7-6 victory on Sunday.

"As far as what happened inside the scrum out on the field, there was a lot of things going on," said Texas manager Jeff Banister, who was making emotional gestures toward nobody in particularly even after the roughly 10 minutes it took for umpires to restore order.

"We could sit here for the next hour and talk about that. But I don't have that time. I've got a bird to catch."

Red Sox 10, Astros 9

In Boston, Xander Bogaerts hit a three-run homer and Ryan Hanigan had three singles and drove in four to lead Boston.

It was the seventh win in eight games for the Red Sox, and completed a 6-1 homestand in which they score 73 runs.

Pirates 2, Cubs 1

In Chicago, Starling Marte singled with one out in the seventh inning to end Jon Lester's no-hit bid, then scored on Jung Ho Kang's double to put Gerrit Cole and Pittsburgh ahead to stay.

Kang added an eighth-inning home run to help the Pirates beat the major league-leading Cubs for the first time in six tries this season.

Cardinals 5, Dodgers 2

In Los Angeles, Matt Carpenter homered for the fifth time in eight games, Yadier Molina had a tiebreaking two-run double in the top of the seventh inning and St. Louis beat Los Angeles to avoid being swept in the three-game series.

Molina pinch hit for starting pitcher Mike Leake and put the Cardinals up 3-1 when he lined reliever Joe Blanton's pitch into the left field corner with two outs.

Yankees 7, White Sox 5

In New York, pinch-hitter Chase Headley lined a tiebreaking double in the seventh inning, Carlos Beltran launched his 400th career home run and New York wrapped up a successful homestand.

The Yankees finished 7-3 against the White Sox, Kansas City and Boston, a much-needed boost for the last-place team.

Marlins 5, Nationals 1

In Washington, Jose Fernandez struck out 11 over seven innings and drove in two runs during a three-run sixth to help Miami defeat Washington.

Giancarlo Stanton hit his 11th home run as Miami salvaged a four-game split. He also survived an outfield collision with Marcell Ozuna that led to Ryan Zimmerman's inside-the-park home run for Washington.

Giants 2, Diamondbacks 1

In Phoenix, manager Bruce Bochy successfully challenged to get a game-ending double play after Brandon Crawford singled in a run in the ninth inning and San Francisco completed a four-game sweep.

Bochy challenged that Rickie Weeks was safe at first base on what turned out to be a 4-6-3 double play. If the call had stood, the tying run would have scored from third. .

Rockies 4, Mets 3

In Denver, pinch-hitter Ryan Raburn came through with a go-ahead, two-run homer in the seventh inning that carried Colorado past New York for a three-game sweep.

Tyler Chatwood (5-3) pitched seven solid innings and Carlos Gonzalez also homered for the Rockies, who swept the Mets for the first time since April 2013.

Tigers 6, Orioles 5

In Baltimore, J.D. Martinez and Miguel Cabrera homered on consecutive pitches in the eighth inning, and Detroit ended Baltimore's seven-game winning streak.

The home runs came against Darren O'Day, who fanned the first two batters in the eighth with Baltimore up 5-4.

Angels 3, Mariners 0

In Seattle, Hector Santiago pitched eight innings of two-hit ball and Daniel Nava's two-run, two-out single in the eighth inning gave Los Angeles the cushion it needed to complete a three-game sweep.

Santiago (3-2) struck out five, allowed only one base runner to reach second base and matched a career high in innings pitched.

Reds 9, Phillies 4

In Philadelphia, Eugenio Suarez hit a three-run homer, Jay Bruce went 3 for 3 and Cincinnati rebounded from a difficult loss.

Dan Straily (2-1) pitched five scoreless innings as last-place Cincinnati won for the third time in 16 road games this season.

Royals 4, Braves 2, 13 innings

In Kansas City, Kendrys Morales hit a walk-off two-run homer with two out in the 13th inning and Kansas City overcame a rare blown save by Wade Davis to defeat Atlanta.

Alcides Escobar, who had four hits to match his career high, singled before Morales' blast off Jason Grilli.

Athletics 7, Rays 6

In St. Petersburg, Danny Valencia hit three home runs, including a two-run shot in the ninth inning that lifted Oakland to a win.

Valencia's final homer—his fifth of the season, all in the three-game weekend series —came on the first pitch from Steve Geltz (0-2), Tampa Bay's fifth pitcher.

Brewers 3, Padres 2

In Milwaukee, Chris Carter hit a towering solo homer and a tiebreaking RBI double, breaking out of a long slump and leading Milwaukee to a victory.

Carter was mired in an 0-for-23 slide before he belted a 443-foot homer off the scoreboard in center field in the third.

Twins 5, Indians 1

In Cleveland, Tyler Duffey pitched seven scoreless innings, Eddie Rosario drove in three runs and Minnesota won its first road series of the season.

Duffey (1-2) allowed six hits and struck out six, giving the Twins back-to-back wins for only the third time this year.

Madrid clubs focus on Champions League

BARCELONA, Spain (AP)—With Barcelona celebrating yet another Spanish league title, Real Madrid and Atletico Madrid are already looking forward to an even bigger prize.

After pushing Barcelona to the end in the Spanish league, the Madrid clubs quickly switched their focus to the Champions League final in two weeks in Milan.

One will return home as the European champion, the other will end the season without a title.

But no matter what happens in Italy, both teams will take solace by having finished the league with their heads up, taking the title fight to the final days and making Barcelona work hard for the trophy.

Real Madrid won its final 12 games to finish only one point behind Barcelona, while Atletico won seven of its last eight, finishing three points behind. They were denied the trophy by a late charge by Barcelona, which won five straight to secure its second consecutive title, and sixth in eight seasons.

Although neither Madrid team won the league, fans were more pleased than frustrated when it was all over this weekend. And it didn't hurt as much to watch Barcelona celebrate knowing there's still a chance to win soccer's top club competition.

"We did what we had to do and we're now thinking about our last remaining game," Real Madrid coach Zinedine Zidane said. "Now it's important to rest up, spend a few days with the family and forget about football. We'll come back raring to go in preparation for the final."

The European title would give Madrid a sensational ending to a season that appeared to be lost not long ago.

Before its impressive final run in the Spanish league, Madrid season's had been marked by a demoralizing 4-0 home loss to Barcelona, a result that left "Los Blancos" in crisis and led to the eventual firing of coach Rafa Benitez. There was also the embarrassing disqualification from the Copa del Rey for using an ineligible player, and a signing ban handed down by FIFA for breaching rules registering players under the age of 18.

AP

Deportivo's Fajr, top, fights for the ball with Real Madrid's Sergio Ramos during a Spanish La Liga soccer match between Deportivo and Real Madrid at the Riazor stadium in A Coruna, Spain, Saturday, May 14, 2016.

At one point in the league, Madrid trailed Barcelona by 12 points and many fans had given up hope of a comeback. In the Champions League, a shocking 2-0 loss at Wolfsburg put the team on the brink of elimination in the quarterfinals, and only a hat trick from Cristiano Ronaldo saved the team from an embarrassing early elimination.

Finishing the league on a high helped boost the team's confidence ahead of the final in Milan.

"Our aim was to put the pressure on and we've done that. It's great for us in terms of morale heading into the Champions League final," Madrid defender Sergio Ramos said. "We had hope, which is the last thing you want to lose. Now we have a beautiful Champions League final that we want to win to make it an unforgettable year."

The result of the final should help determine how successful Madrid's season will actually be.

"I don't think that it has been a bad season," Madrid defender Dani Carvajal said. "Right now, I would give a positive assessment, but on the 28th we'll be able to judge whether the season has been a good or bad one."

Atletico will be hoping to avenge the hurtful result from two years ago, when it lost to Madrid in extra time despite leading until the final minutes of regulation.

Regardless of the result in Milan, Atletico again showed its worth this season both against Spanish rivals and top European clubs.

EMS Softball Tournament draws 11 teams

The EMS Softball Tournament kicked off last night at the Capital Hill Ballfield with 11 teams vying for the championship.

The tournament is supported by BSI CSR, which is also a member of the EMS Committee.

"One day while CSR 2 was working on our CHCC project, a group of firefighters came to us and asked if we had some people that were interested in joining their EMS Committee. We at CSR, being involved with almost every event on the calendar, were more than willing to be part of this committee to help out with the community and give back to our islands. We are involved in many events such as assisting EMS with vital readings at the street market, EMS Family Fun Day, and then this hosting of the EMS Softball Tournament," BSI CSR's Martin Pangelinan said in a press release.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

BSI CSR staff members pose for a photo during the opening ceremony of the EMS Softball Tournament yesterday at the Capital Hill Ballfield.

The tournament is for fun and awareness and participating teams are all members of the EMS Committee. ***(PR)***

H.K.

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Jeff Race umpiring the latter part of the tension-filled first set as Yee and Martin were both contesting each other's calls. In the end, Yee slipped past Martin in the first set, but ran out of juice in the second, allowing the PH bet to blank him. However, the Hong Kong player still had the last say as he won the deciding third set.

With Yee moving on, he will face Japan's Taiyo Hirano in today's opening round.

Fifteen other matches in the first round of the boys singles are scheduled today and tomorrow. The opening games will feature the Top 8 seeds, three wild card entries, a lucky loser (Shoesmith), and players from Japan, Hong Kong, the Philippines, South Korea, Chinese-Taipei, American Samoa, the Federated States of Micronesia, and Malaysia.

Chinese-Taipei's Cing-Yang Meng and Cheng-Chieh Wang are the Top 2 seeds, while the other ranked players (from No. 3 to 8) are Hong Kong's Alester Magalit, Japan's Ryuki Matsuda, South Korea's Yohan Sung, Japan's Tsubasa Kato, Hong Kong's Jonathan Zhang, and Japan's Kairi Inoue.

The CNMI's Moris Villanueva, Ken Song, and Robbie Schorr are the wild card entries. Villanueva will duel Matsuda today, while Song and Schorr will collide against Wang and Fumiya Yoshino, respectively.

Lee seeded sixth in girls singles

Meanwhile, the girls singles draw was released last night with the CNMI's Carol Lee among the seeded players in the field.

Lee is seeded at No. 6 and is at the lower half of the draw along with fellow Commonwealth players Isabel Heras, Ami Tsukagoshi, Asia Raulerson, and Malika Miyawaki. The 14-year-old Lee will have her first round match today against Japan's Yuna Ukita. Heras will face a seeded foe in No. 4 Yuelin Chen of Chinese-Taipei, while Tsukagoshi will also challenge a ranked opponent in Japan's Mana Kawamura. Miyawaki has the toughest draw in the first round, as she will go up against the second-seeded Chaudia Ng of Hong Kong, while Raulerson will face the unranked Seko Oyama.

At the top half of the draw, Tania Tan will meet Yuna Fukumuro, while the returning Negahr Rastguiy will square off against Palau's Ayana Rengiil.

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to the new players the areas they've seen, while the new players were in awe. The weather here is much cooler than last year's and the girls were tripping over how they could see their breath," team manager Angie Ito said in an email sent to *Saipan Tribune* and Northern Mariana Islands Football officials.

"After about two hours, we reached the training center and we got the team to settle in. We had a 4pm training and the girls were so amazed and excited with such beautiful grass to play on. Today (yesterday), we had a morning training at 10am. Coaches Jimmy (Chi Ming) Fan (Wong Shuk) were with the girls while Ms. Pam (Carhill), coach Koo (Luam Khen) and I attended the manager's and medical meeting," Ito added

After its opener against Japan today, the CNMI will challenge China tomorrow before closing out their Pool A assignment on Thursday against South Korea.

"Each game will be a tough one. We will be facing very strong teams so we have to be on our best form all throughout the matches. We're not putting too much pressure on the girls, we want them to play their best and learn from other players' games," said Koo, who is the head of the CNMI delegation.

ENFORCERS

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the upper hand at the bottom of the third, thanks to Dai Podziewski and Jode Reyes, who each scored a two-run single. The Falcons got their two runs from Iguel and Mark Norita, who made it home off the Red Sox' errors at left field in the first and third inning.

The eventual winners then moved one run away from tying the match in the fourth inning after Justin Cangco reached off a wild pitch, while a Tyrese Camacho sacrifice fly evened up the game in the fifth inning. A 1-2-3 inning for both teams in the fifth inning kept the tiff in a standoff before the Falcons made it home twice to put pressure on the Red Sox in the last inning.

The Red Sox had a lot of chances to score in the final inning as they loaded the bases with two outs. However, Dickinson, who relieved Camacho, struck out Mingko Taimanao for the last out. Dickinson earlier fanned out Koby Santos for the second out in the seventh inning, while Henry Fleming was called for the first out as he was beaten at second base.

All CNMI Juniors Outrigger Regatta 2016

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Saipan Paddling Club members huddle before returning to the waters off Kilili Beach to resume action in last Saturday's All CNMI Juniors Outrigger Regatta 2016.

Grace Christian Academy students steer their way to the finish line of the 500m event.

Volunteer Justin Andrew watches SPC female paddlers head to the finish line of the 500m race.

SPC female paddlers cross the finish line first during the 500m event.

Two paddlers from Grace Christian Academy steer slowly after completing the 500m race.

Napu paddlers pick up their pace as they near the finish line of the 250m preliminary race.

Grace Christian Academy paddlers switch sides.

Ed Johnson raises the red flag before the start of the 500m race.

Napu paddlers are all smiles as they are about to complete the 250m race.

No Wade-James face-off as Raptors take Game 7

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H.K. player gets last qualifying slot

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Hong Kong's Matthew Yee makes a backhand return to the Philippines' Benjaminjacob Martin during the first set of their game in the qualifying round of the 2016 IT&E Northern Marianas Juniors Championships yesterday at the Pacific Islands Club.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Hong Kong's Matthew Yee outlasted the Philippines' Benjaminjacob Martin in three sets to clinch the last qualifying berth in the boys singles event of the 2016 IT&E Northern Marianas Juniors Championships yesterday at the Pacific Islands Club.

Yee pulled off a 7-6 (3) win in the opening set that lasted for more than one hour, but failed to close out the match when Martin recorded an impressive 6-0 win in the second. After being shut down in the second set, Yee came out strong in the deciding third set and posted a 6-3 triumph to join fellow qualifiers Taiyo Yamanaka and Ryuhei Azuma of Japan and South Korea's Min Seok Sim to the 32-player main draw.

Yamanaka took the first qualifying slots after his opponent—Ethan Shoesmith of Australia—retired (ill) with the Japanese leading in the opening set, 4-1. Yamanaka's compatriot, Azuma, followed suit after easing past another Aussie bet in Charles Dossetter, 6-1, 6-2.

With the first three qualifying sets taken, the attention of the spectators turned to Yee and Martin, who played on Court 1. The two players went back and forth in the opening set, which saw CNMI coach

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Enforcers, Falcons outclass foes

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Kagman Enforcers and Falcons downed their respective opponents in the 2016 Saipan Little League Baseball last Sunday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

In the Senior League division, the Enforcers eked out a 1-0 victory over the Comets, while in the Junior League tiff, the Falcons edged the Red Sox, 6-4.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
A Kagman Enforcers player gets ready to bat during the top of the seventh inning of their Senior League game against the Comets in the SLLB last Sunday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

Shakobe Rangamar pitched in no relief for the Enforcers and threw a three-hitter while striking out eight and walking only one. He also helped the Enforcer score their lone run in the match with his single at the top of the first inning bringing Nat Nogis home.

With Rangamar working the mound for the Enforcers, the Comets did not make it past second base. The ace pitcher and Enforcers' defense was so steady that the Comets were called for 1-2- 3 innings in the first, second, fourth, and seventh. No more than more batters were able to step up to the plate for the Comets in each of the seven-inning match.

Rangamar began the fourth with a strikeout on Brandon Pua, while Austin Indalecio went back to the dugout after a 5-3 putout play. The Comets' third batter—Rejay Ishikawa—also went down early off a 1-3 putout play.

Meanwhile, in the Junior League game, Angel Iguel scored off a passed ball for the go-ahead run, while Aven Evangelista made the insurance for the Falcons off a sacrifice out from Spencer Dickinson.

It was a come-from-behind win for the Falcons, as they faced a 2-4 deficit after three innings. The Red Sox took

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CNMI begins bid in AFC tourney today

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI Girls U14 National Team will play the heavily favored Japan in the second game in the opening day of the AFC U14 Girls Regional Championships at the Xianghe Football Training Center in Beijing, China.

The CNMI-Japan tiff is set for 5pm (7pm Saipan time) after the 2pm opening game between host China and South Korea.

The Commonwealth crew, which is composed of Irish Viray, Theresa Marie Toves, Princess Alcantara, Jerlyn Castillo, Patricia Surima, Kristelle Itaas, Sharmaine Francisco, Paulynn Joyce, Julianne Hall, Leisha Sally, Francesca Bucalig, Katrina Costales, Esther Jones, Lillian Podziewski, Therize Millare, Alisa Gatharngeg, Hannah Santos, and Valeria Myers, had two days to prepare for its tough opening assignment as it arrived in Beijing last Sunday.

"The girls were so excited once we landed. Getting off the plane and onto a bus to the facility was another moment for them, former players from last year were explaining

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
The CNMI Girls U14 National Team members pose for a photo during a send-off ceremony at Kanoa Resort last week. The squad is now in China for the AFC U14 Girls Regional Championships.